



# ***The Resonator***

**Official Newsletter of The Fair Lawn (NJ) Amateur Radio Club**

**Volume 7, Number 1**

**[www.FairLawnARC.org](http://www.FairLawnARC.org)**

**January 2022**

## **Member Profile**

NAME: James Gallo      CALL: KB2FMH

### **What do you do/what did you do for a living?**

I am a retired NYC Licensed Plumbing Contractor. My primary work was municipal, mostly upgrading NYC schools. I also did mechanical / HVAC piping and fire sprinkler work.

### **How did you get interested in ham radio?**

I have always had a proclivity with electrical things. As a young Boy Scout, I learned Morse code and semaphore for signaling merit badge. I would practice with a friend across the street using flashlights from our opposing windows. When CB became popular in the '70s I dove into that. During the mid '80s I found out about the world of radio beyond 40 channels and soon got

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## **From The President**

Dear FLARC Family,

I want to start by wishing all of you, my FLARC family, a very Happy 2022. The time has come to open a new book, and along with ALL of you, start writing a new chapter in FLARC's history. Even though we have been dealing for close to two years with the worldwide COVID pandemic, we at our Club have been able to maintain our activities, stay united as members and continue to enjoy our beloved hobby, Ham Radio.

There is no reason we can't continue with our plans, our goals and those things we enjoy as Ham Radio Operators.

Our Special Interest Groups, our Kawfee Tawks, our Hamfest, Contests, weekly nets, & events in general are in the agenda for this year. We will work as much as we can to have them, as long as we continue to do things safely and following the instructions we may receive from our local, state and federal authorities.

I want for all of us to have as much fun as possible, and maintain those activities we look forward in having. But my main priority, as is that of the FLARC Board, is your safety and your health. As I always say, let's use our common sense and at times, maybe alter the original plan and still try to have our events as long as our health and welfare is not jeopardized.

We will continue in 2022 to offer our monthly business meeting via Zoom for those that feel more comfortable staying home. The first event coming up is Winter Field Day. Our FD Chairman, Noel, W2MSA will be reaching out to all of you to see who is participating in WFD, what options we have,

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## **New Member Profile, continued**

licensed enough to talk to others around the world. How that came to be was because a friend and I were using high powered Ham gear on the CB frequencies and causing interference around the neighborhood, coming through all kinds of analog appliances with our big AM signals.

The results of that caused the Radio Police, the Real government ones, to come checking. They threatened to confiscate my equipment and impose fines I didn't want to pay so, we found a local Extra class, a young college kid, and took our novice tests at his house while his mother fed us lunch.

I thought "This is Great" – much better than going to the city and testing in a dingy office as we'd heard about. My friend Sal got KB2FLM, and I was given KB2FMH. Sal was a quick witted fellow, so he quickly coined himself "Fun Loving Man" while I was "Find My Hat"!

We did end up in the FCC NYC office on the path to General though, but it was worth it to be able to actually talk on the available bands rather than those boring dits and dahs. Sal went on to get his Advanced and I was OK where I was at the time.

I began to spend less time on the air around 1990 as my second child came and the radio room had to be the kid's room. I brought my fabulous Drake B Twins to our country house and threw up some antennas – but being it was a weekend place, I slowly faded away from the hobby. I did renew once in '95 but missed it in 2005, so by 2007 the licensed had been cancelled.

I found myself interested again in early 2016 by happening upon someone selling a Drake set on eBay, which triggered the old memories. Realizing I now had time and better resources, I began buying stuff and found a local club to give me the tests. I was shocked upon learning that code was removed as a requirement and quickly progressed to Extra in a few months.

Since then, I have become very active in many aspects of radio sport.

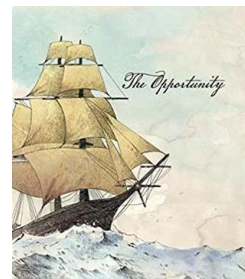
## **From The President, continued**

and again, how can we do it safely. Please let him know your thoughts and ideas. We will now open the 2022 book. Its pages are blank.

We at FLARC are all going to put words on them starting now. The book is called Opportunity, and its first chapter has just begun.

Please, be safe, stay healthy and "I'll see ya on the radio".

73,  
Nomar, NP4H  
FLARC President



## **New Member Profile, continued**

### **What parts of the hobby most interest you?**

I thoroughly enjoy the sound of the static din while listening for distant voices. Chasing DX was always my passion, even when it was only on the CB as a kid. I still prefer the older tube radios and have amassed quite a collection of my favorites: the R. L. Drake equipment.

I like fixing them myself when needed, which I can't do with solid state, and modifying them to go beyond the original limitations.

I still like using AM mode for the full rich sound you get. Most of the AM operators are using the tube stuff and sound great; but for the DX hunt SSB is where it's at.

I have yet to find any excitement from computer/radio communications as I feel there is no personality in it.

I did get back into MARS for a while, being that I did phone patches for Air Force MARS back in the '80s; but these days that has gone digital too so I gave it up.

Continued on next page.

## New Member Profile, continued

My most current pleasures come from being a part of the Parks on the Air (POTA) activity. It's like a contest and and DX, *Every Day!*

I most enjoy working the pileups as well as going to some really nice natural locations. Another interest is doing Special Event Stations (SES) and I have done about a dozen to date. That too is like being a rare DX, due to the uniqueness of it being a one-time thing. I design very nice cards for them too, which adds to the lure of those calling in to get them.

### How did you first find out about FLARC? What are your impressions of the club?

I first encountered FLARC by accident, having taken a call from a member, W2MSA, while activating a POTA park in New Jersey. During that same activation I met President NP4H and member N2BTD. Each was as nice as can be and told me of their involvement with this club. I talked with each at length and decided to accept the invitation to join in.

My impression right away was that FLARC was a diversely active club with groups of members following different aspects of what radio offers. My interests led me to lean more towards the Portable Ops and DX groups and since joining I have met several of the members of those groups and have become very friendly with them.

### What else can you tell the club about yourself and/or ham radio?

I can give a little personal info:

I've been a plumber since I was 8 years old, starting with an appliance repair guy whose shop I would pass traveling to school. In the mid-nineties I got licensed by NYC to do it legally. I also have a Sprinkler license as well as some other trade related certifications. I have been teaching at a trade school since 2003 and enjoy that a lot. My other, actually first, field of interest was auto electronics. I started doing that in the seventies when the rage was putting FM/ 8-track units in cars and adding speakers to the rear deck and front doors. When aftermarket alarms came out, I installed those as well. Eventually I became Goodwrench Certified by GM so if I worked on your new car, it would not void any warranty.

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## It's FLARC Awards Time Again



Here are the past winners of the FLARC "Frank Leonard Memorial Award":

2020 Thom W2NZ  
2019 Karl W2KBF  
2018 Gene WO2W

2021? Stand by!

— • • • —

## Volunteers Needed —

The Ramapo Mountain Amateur Radio Club is providing communications support to the Boy Scouts for their annual Klondike Derby.

It is being held on January 22nd, 2022 at Shepherd Lake in Ringwood State Park. The event lasts all day and is outdoors.

If any FLARC members are interested in participating in this event, contact Tony at [N2KDZ@optonline.net](mailto:N2KDZ@optonline.net) or by phone at either 973-839-3564 or 862-666-4047.





## New Member Profile, continued

Of course, I also installed and modified CBs when they became popular. That's what gave me my start in radio communications.

Family-wise, I have two kids, a 33 year old daughter who herself is the mother of two now, a boy and girl, still babies, and a 31 year old son who just had a son himself. He is an Eagle Scout and fitness consultant who owns a CrossFit Gym in Staten Island. My daughter is a psychologist who works for the state counseling wayward kids and adults with addiction issues.

Neither of them is interested in radio.

Currently my radio activity revolves around POTA where my girlfriend Vera, with whom I reside in Brooklyn, and I travel far and near to find nice parks to explore. She grew up with a father who was an active SWL in Siberia during the Cold War era where it was risky to be listening to outside broadcasts and feels comfort in listening to the din of static and the fading in and out of the voices from around the world.

She enjoys hearing the pileups and is excited when hunters talk like old friends to us both. She's a bit "Mike Shy" but will say Hello on occasion if prompted.

### What other ham related clubs or organizations do you belong to?

I am a member of the King's County Radio Club in Brooklyn, and also their VE Liaison.

I am a founding member of the New York City DX Association, W2NDX, as well as many US, European and international DX clubs. I may still be a member of the popular Frankford Radio Club.

I was an assistant district emergency coordinator for NYC ARES for a while, but the internal politics drove me away.



A young KB2FMH at the radios in 1986 –  
Drake 7077 mic in the background, Drake B twins on the desk



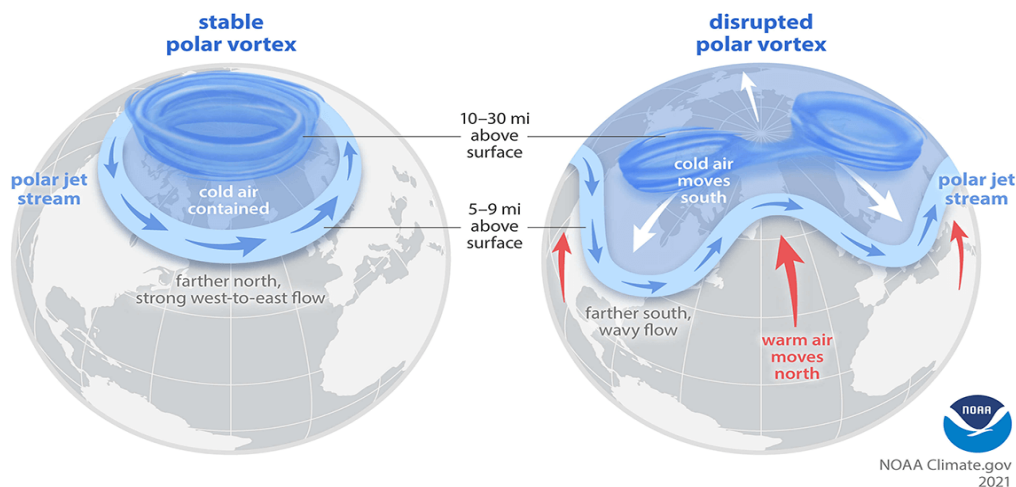
KB2FMH (on the right) with KB2BNY (on the left) at a Field Day station in  
2017  
at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn with the King's County Radio Club,  
operating as KC2RC

## Understanding the polar vortex

The Arctic polar vortex is a strong band of winds in the stratosphere, surrounding the North Pole 10–30 miles above the surface.

The polar vortex is far above and typically does not interact with the polar jet stream, the flow of winds in the troposphere 5–9 miles above the surface. But when the polar vortex is especially strong and stable, the jet stream stays farther north and has fewer "kinks." This keeps cold air contained over the Arctic and the mid-latitudes warmer than usual.

Every other year or so, the Arctic polar vortex dramatically weakens. The vortex can be pushed off the pole or split into two. Sometimes the polar jet stream mirrors this stratospheric upheaval, becoming weaker or wavy. At the surface, cold air is pushed southward to the mid-latitudes, and warm air is drawn up into the Arctic.



## FLARC To Hold VE Testing On January 15<sup>th</sup>

**On Jan. 15, 2022** Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will continue amateur radio test sessions.

The location is at:

The Fair Lawn Recreation Center  
10-10 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fair Lawn, NJ

**NOTE THAT THIS IS AN INDOOR LOCATION!**

Covid-19 related incidents will cancel testing.

### Prior to Testing:

Send an email to [wo2w@arrl.net](mailto:wo2w@arrl.net) requesting to book your spot. **Pre-registration is REQUIRED.**

### Please Bring With You:

- You **MUST** bring and **WEAR** personal PPE items including a face mask
- 2 pens and 2 pencils. None will be provided to you due to possible virus transmission
- Your FRN number, and (if licensed) a copy of your ham license or a valid CSCE (Certificate of Successful Completion Exam)
- A completed Form 605 (which will be sent to you ahead of your test session, along with your assigned test time. )
- Additionally, the **\$15.00 exam fee**. This is payable in cash (**exact amount is a must**)
- 3 copies of the CSCE form which will be sent to you ahead of your test session

Additional scheduled testing dates are:  
February 12, 2022 and March 12, 2022.

*FLARC is following government Covid-19 guidance closely and all events will adhere accordingly to the latest advice.*



## Barry Feierman K3EUI Returns to FLARC for "NANO VNA Part 2" at 10:00 on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

Back by popular demand, Barry Feierman K3EUI will continue his deep-dive into NANO VNA with a follow-up on his well-attended Part 1 presentation back in November.

K3EUI started his radio career as a 13-year-old (KN3EUI) using a Gonset II Communicator on 2-meter AM with 10 watts and two crystals. Getting his Extra while a teenager, he has been a hooked ham for life. Barry has a background in astrophysics and a career as a physics and astronomy teacher both in high school and at West Chester University and Bryn Mawr College.

Now retired with two grandchildren, he is active in ARES/RACES in Chester County, PA and other regional radio clubs. He is also one of three net control operators and net manager for the PA NBEMS PEMA net every Sunday at 0730 on 3583.0 kHz. His QTH is home to 12 antennas and his primary interest is in digital modes.

He is also plays saxophone and recorder and is an avid kayaker while remaining active in the SE Pennsylvania section of the American Association of Physics Teachers.

So, save the date and remember...it is a SATURDAY!!!



# The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

Why Is FLARC New Jersey's Most Exciting Radio Club?

## Events

- Field Day
- Winter Field Day
- World Amateur Radio Day
- Portable Days
- Earth Day
- Special events
- Memorial Day parade
- Independence Day fireworks
- Fair Lawn Street Fair(s)
- Ham fests/Auctions
- Foxhunts
- Contests
- Field trips
- Annual holiday party
- ...and more!



## There Is Something Every Night At FLARC!

- Monday: Near and Far Net
- Tuesday: DMR Net
- Tuesday: "Pop Up" Open House/Open Zoom
- Wednesday: ARES/RACES Net
- Wednesday: Health and Welfare Net
- Thursday: Tech Net (with BARA)
- Friday: Kawfee Tawk Speaker Series (monthly)
- Weekends: POTA and other station activations

There is Something for Everyone at FLARC!



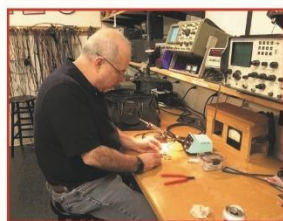
## Special Interest Groups:

- Portable Ops: POTA, SOTA, etc.
- DX: Chase the rare ones
- Digital Voice: DMR and other digital modes
- FT8: And other WSJT modes
- Satellite: Also, for weather GPS interests
- Monitoring: SWL and other general listening
- And others to come!!



## Plus:

- Monthly VE Testing
- An active repeater – W2NPT (linked with NJ2BS)
- New equipment in the shack
- New antennas on the roof
- A five-position operating clubhouse
- Over 72 consecutive months of speaker programs to learn and grow.



## That's why FLARC is the best club around!!

Join us in our in-person and in our Zoom Room for more activities, speakers, and projects to come!

*FLARC is following Covid-19 government guidance closely and all events and activities will adhere accordingly to the latest advice.*



**The Club** Fair Lawn ARC is the fastest growing ham club around, with five operating positions in a permanent clubhouse. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The club is open every Friday night, except when there is a Kawfee Tawk scheduled, from NLT 6:30 PM. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30PM.

#### 2022 Officers, Committees and Assignments

President	Nomar Vizcarrando	NP4H
Vice President	David Corsello	KD2JIP
Treasurer	Bruce Kalogera	NJ2BK
Secretary	David Gotlib	KD2MOB
Trustee	Ed Efhak	WX2R
Trustee	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
Trustee	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Field Day	Noel Pagan Steve Rosman Steve Wraga	W2MSA KA2YRA WA2BYX
Member Services Health & Welfare	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Marketing	Ed Efhak	WX2R
	Nomar Vizcarrando	NP4H
	Jim Cooper	W2JC
	Dave Corsello	KD2JIP
Program	Ed Efhak	WX2R
Video/YouTube	Thom Guida	W2NZ
Social Media	Thom Guida	W2NZ
	Dave Marotti	NK2Q
Photographer	Giovanni Lucero	K2GIO
Community Relations	Gene Ottenheimer	WO2W
	Dave Gotlib	KD2MOB
	Ed Efhak	WX2R
Hamfest and Auction	Gene Ottenheimer	WO2W
	Bill Leger	WA2WL
	Bruce Kalogera	NJ2BK
Education	Bill Kelly	NB1LL
	Earle "Skip" Barker	KD2BRV
	Paul Brennan	N6FB
Net Scheduler	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Contests	Lowell Vant Slot	W2DLT
FLARC Historian	Fred Belghaus	W2AAB
Webmaster	Jim Cooper	W2JC
Technical	Jim Cooper	W2JC
	Paul Cornett	W2IP
	Brad Kerber	KM2C
	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
RACES/ARES Director	Dave Gotlib	KD2MOB
RACES/ARES Liaison	Steve Wraga	WA2BYX
Newsletter Editor	Ed Efhak	WX2R
Newsletter Publisher	Jim Cooper	W2JC
Quartermaster	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
W2NPT Trustee	Paul Cornett	W2IP
NK2H Trustee	Ed Efhak	WX2R

President serves as ex officio to all committees

## WINTER FIELD DAY

January 29/30, 2022



The next Winter Field Day is January 29-30, 2022.

If you're interested in helping the club get a station on the air, now is the time to let Noel W2MSA know so he can take it from there. We've had some interesting activations in past years, although the pandemic put a damper on our plans for 2021. It has not yet been decided if we will try to operate as a club station, but each member can also operate their own station and combine scores for the club.

Noel is coordinating for this year and will be sending out more info soon.

It's lots of fun regardless of the weather... and we have been lucky in past January's.

<https://www.winterfieldday.com/>

## Winter Field Day 2020

Covid 19 Pandemic scoring changes for Clubs/Groups:

These changes apply ONLY to groups who, due to the Pandemic and possible local restrictions, won't/can't be congregating to compete this year. If your group wishes, you may have a "group/club" score tallied by having individual members fill in the "CLUB:" line in their Cabrillo log file.

Individual members will operate using their own callsign (operating under their own privileges), using a class & category exchange that reflects their individual situation. They will send in their log under their own callsign with the name or callsign of the group/club noted on the "CLUB:" line.

If your group uses a club name, **be sure to advise everyone in your group to use the exact same unique name.** Choose wisely!

We will use -- CLUB: Fair Lawn ARC

There are dozens of clubs with the same abbreviation (as in LARC, PARC, etc), but it's unlikely there's more than one Livonia ARC, or Lincoln ARC.

"Club" scores will be the aggregate of the individual members' scores, regardless of how they operated and will be posted as distinct "Club/Group" scores once tallied.

Your individual members' logs and scores will be tallied and posted as well (each under their own call), the same as any other entrant. It might be a good idea to have someone in your club/group collect members' logs and check them to ensure the logs are correct before sending them in. It'll save us time and you aggravation.

"Club/Group" scores will likely be the last to be posted as all logs won't be in till the actual log deadline.

## 2022 FLARC Kawfee Tawk Programs

Date	Presenter	Program
January 21, 2022 (Friday)	Bob Antoniuk N2SU	The History of Call Signs
February 18, 2022 (Friday)	Matt Heere N3NWV	POTA – Get Involved!!
February 26, 2022 (Saturday)	Barry Feirman K3EUI	NANO VNA Part 2
March 18, 2022	Charlie Cebula AC2ZU	How the Telegraph Helped the North Win the Civil War
April (Date TBD)	Sudiptha Ghose VU2UT	The Union of Asian DX'ers
May		
June	TBD	"FLARC Members Short Subjects" (NEW!!)
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		



Hidetsugu Yagi's 130th Birthday Google Doodle

### Follow FLARC ON THE WEB

**Facebook:** <http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>

**Twitter:** @FairLawnARC

**Blog:** <http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>

**Youtube:** <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

**Website:** <http://FairLawnARC.org>

### SIG Group Participation as of December 28, 2021

Here is an update on the roster of Special Interest Groups...

Digital Voice	32
Monitoring	23
DX	18
FT8	20
Satellite	17
EMCOMM	12
Contest	12
Portable Ops	43
FLARC General	169

Sign up for a group... or ...  
why not start one?

Contact [webmaster@FairLawnARC.org](mailto:webmaster@FairLawnARC.org)  
if you would like to start a new  
Special Interest Group.



### Selected 2022 Committee Descriptions

The Club is reviewing and updating some existing committees in order to be more effective as the club continues to grow. Two have been newly created – Hamfest and Community Outreach — the Education Committee has been redefined and the Publicity Committee will be renamed. All others remain the same at the present time.

#### Education Committee:

Helps teach license classes, puts on workshops, demonstrations, etc., for Club members and area hams to improve proficiency in amateur radio. (Redefined)

#### Hamfest and Auction:

Responsibilities include lining up exhibitors and vendors, soliciting prizes and donations and staffing the events including ticket sales, etc. as well as running the events. (New)

#### Marketing Committee:

Responsibilities include the crafting, updating, and overseeing the strategic marketing plan to maintain the integrity of the FLARC brand by promoting the club's mission; and developing the club's marketing message to become broadly recognized as a favorable club for all amateurs through various online/social media channels, exhibits, public events and collateral material. Responsible for outside public relations and all media publicity. (Formerly the Publicity Committee)

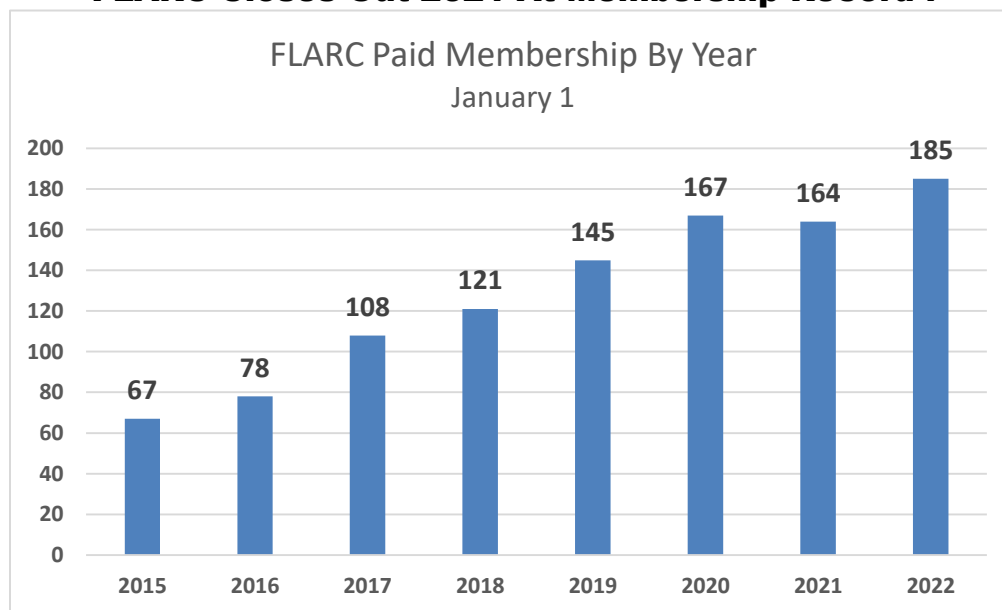
#### Community Outreach Committee:

Provides information and participates in local outreach opportunities to explain, demonstrate, and create interest in amateur radio and electronics. Teaches the community how Amateur Radio operators and citizens can communicate effectively during emergencies. (New)

Other FLARC Committees include:

- Field Day
- Contests
- Technical
- Health and Welfare
- Program
- History
- ARES/RACES
- Membership

### FLARC Closes Out 2021 At Membership Record !





## The History of Call Signs

### 2022 FLARC January 21<sup>st</sup> Kawfee Tawk™ Series

Amateur radio call signs are the most personal item of a very fraternal hobby. We are more likely to know a fellow ham by their call sign than by their surname. But how did they come about and what are the intricacies that surround them?

Bob Antoniuk N2SU will share his knowledge of the subject with a short look back to the beginning and a quick review of the pre-1930 era of intermediates, etc. The depth of the discussion will be to take a close look at the era that starts with the introduction of the Novice license in the early 1950s and the beginning of the two-letter prefixes in 1958 and the victims of geography if your QTH was in New York, New Jersey or California. Bob will concentrate on the shift of population from the Northeast to the South and West and its effect on callsigns. He will also show the difference in the ham populations in each call area from 1967 to today, as well as the changes that occurred in 1978.

Finally, he will discuss how you can figure out your new callsign (approximately!) when you get your first license. Probably when you received your first license, you had no idea what you would get.

Bob, a FLARC member, started as an AM broadcast band DXer in 1968. That year for Christmas he received a Hallicrafters S-120 and got into shortwave for the next two years. He earned his Novice license in June 1971, upgraded to General in April 1972, and Extra in January 1975. He has been involved in the hobby for many years starting with traffic handling in the 1970s. Inactive from 1982-1991, he got into DX and has worked over three hundred countries on CW and digital modes. He has also done plenty of HF/VHF contesting. He has been a VE [Volunteer Examiner] since 1992 and has worked in the W2 QSL bureau as a member of NJDXA since 2004. He enjoys playing with antennas and hopes to get into POTA over the next few years.

Outside of ham radio, Bob has worked in sports media for 40 years and currently covers high school football for a webpage and does Public Address announcing for local colleges.

This should be an interesting and fun night and is a must for all those interested in the local history of amateur radio.

Zoom Log-in info: <https://zoom.us>  
Meeting ID: 880 5637 5531  
Passcode: N2SU

Telephone log-in: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
Meeting ID: 880 5637 5531  
Passcode: 509152

**When you log in please show your FIRST NAME and your CALL SIGN.**

So, save the date – **Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup> 2022 at 7:30 PM EDT** --  
for this important and always relevant discussion.

For more information, please visit the club's website at [www.FairLawnARC.org](http://www.FairLawnARC.org) or call 201-791-3841.



## ***POTA: All You Need to Know***

### **2022 FLARC February 18<sup>th</sup> Kawfee Tawk™ Series**

Parks on the Air (POTA) is one of the fastest growing segments of amateur radio, emerging from the National Parks on the Air program started by ARRL. Today the program has taken on a life of its own as many of our own club's amateurs can attest.

We are fortunate to have one of the key spokespeople for the subject as our February *Kawfee Tawk* speaker. Matt Heere – N3NWV – handles audio/video creation and public relations for the Parks on the Air program.

The program, tailored for both beginners and advanced activators, will have two parts. Part one discusses POTA, the program. How it works, and what resources are available to help you get started. Part two is about, as Matt calls it, "toys." He will discuss how people setup a typical (if there is such a thing) POTA station and all the fun that surrounds taking it from there.

Matt is an extra class operator located in Western PA and has been licensed since 1993.

Professionally, Matt is an electrical engineer who has spent the bulk of his career working with large data set analysis in the power and utility industries. He is a private pilot, a wood worker, a competitive shooter, active in the PIXEL Christmas light community, and the father of two. His XYL is a veterinarian, and so there is usually a dog or cat in his chair.

Matt maintains a YouTube channel, currently with over 30,000 subscribers, available at [YouTube.com/MattHeere](https://www.youtube.com/MattHeere)

So, save the date – **Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 7:30 PM EDT** -- for this important and always relevant discussion.

Zoom log-in info: <https://zoom.us>  
Meeting ID: 856 7217 9183  
Password: POTA

**When you log in please show your FIRST NAME and your CALL SIGN.**

Telephone dial-in at +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
Meeting ID: 856 7217 9183  
Passcode: 440543

For more information, please visit the club's website at <http://www.FairLawnARC.org> or call 201-791-3841.



Matt Heere N3NWV





## AMATEUR RADIO TESTING BY THE FAIR LAWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

On January 15, 2022 the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will continue amateur radio test sessions on a modified basis.

These sessions will be held at the **Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club.**

**The location is at 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ**

The session starts at 9:15 AM.

**A document will be provided to you prior to the date to indicate the time assigned to you.**

You must have it with you to take the test.

### **Prior to Testing:**

Send an email to [wo2w@arrl.net](mailto:wo2w@arrl.net) requesting to book your spot.

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED - NO WALK-INS ACCEPTED.**

### **Upon Arrival:**

You must have a government issued ID such as a valid driver's license or passport, a filled out Form 605, and **3 filled out copies of the FCC CSCE form.**

### **Please Bring With You:**

- You **MUST** bring and WEAR personal PPE items including a face mask.
- 2 pens and 2 pencils. None will be provided to you, due to possible virus transmission.
- Your FRN number, and (if licensed) a copy of your ham license or a valid CSCE (Certificate of Successful Completion Exam).
- Additionally, the **\$15.00 exam fee**. This is payable in cash (exact amount is a must).

## Some Changes Coming to FLARC Committees—Get Involved!!

Elsewhere in The Resonator [page 9] you will note some definitions for both new and existing committees. This is to better focus activities and better address member interests as the club continues to grow.

A 2022 goal is to involve as many members as possible, even if it is only a small amount of personal time.

Volunteer!! It will make FLARC even better!!

**Special Note:** *As non-profit, the IRS now requires that we disclose annually the use of paid lobbyists to our members and indicate approximately what percentage of their dues goes toward that. 0% of your 2021 dues payment will be used by the club to directly pay a lobbyist firm to lobby on behalf of all our members regarding pending legislation that impacts our hobby.*

## The GREAT FLARC 2022 HAMFEST!!

**Save The Date!**  
**Saturday, June 4, 2022**



### Afternoon Moderate-Speed CW Classes From The UK

The Chelmsford (UK) Amateur Radio Society offers CW classes on a regular basis. All are welcome to attend via SKYPE at 1900 UK TIME (2PM EST) on Thursday evenings.

For more info and contacts:

<http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training/#CW>

## Please Note: Operating at W2NPT

Starting in January 2019 club trustees have sign-in sheets for all operating positions. There is a clipboard at Operating Position #1, #2 (digital) and #4 with a form on which to sign up for half-hour time slots. No longer first come-first served, in fairness to all who want to use our club equipment and the new antennas.

## Get Direct With FLARC!

Here is a direct link to specific club info: just a click away!

<http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://auction.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://calendar.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://events.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://exams.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://news.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://swap.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://tech.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

**NEW !**

<https://groups.io/g/FairLawnARC>



## Online License Testing!

Are you looking to get your license or upgrade without leaving your home? All you need is a laptop computer with a video camera.

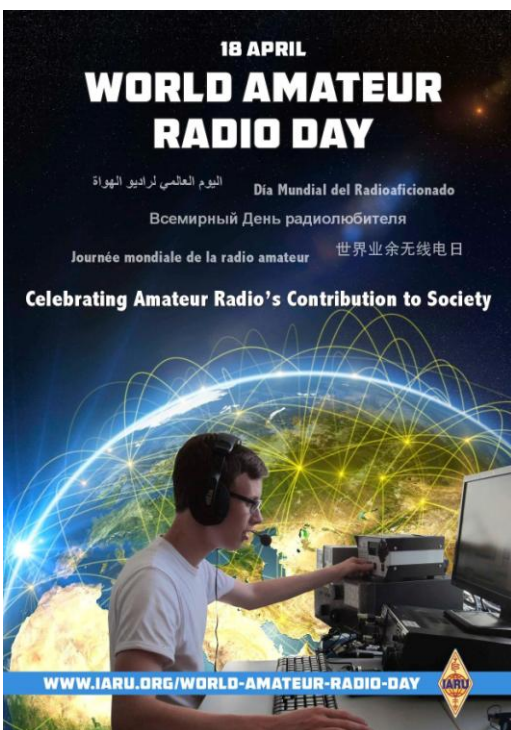
There are number of sites listed on [hamstudy.org/sessions](http://hamstudy.org/sessions) These folks will walk you through taking an exam online.

I have worked with both WB5QNG and AA7HW. If you have any questions, please contact me at [mStevenk2sab@gmail.com](mailto:mStevenk2sab@gmail.com)

73,  
Steven Boston K2SAB

## World Amateur Radio Day Is Coming!

Save The Date: Monday, April 18th !



## Club Apparel — Get Them While They're **RED**!

Club apparel is always in vogue. Red is always "in" and your club friends all have them... you *want* a shirt or jacket for the next FLARC event! Great for Field Day!

Don't forget.... they're easy to order.

Go to [www.hamthreads.com](http://www.hamthreads.com)

or visit <http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>

Check out the item selection that is posted on the FLARC website (with pictures and prices). Order the shirts or other items you want with either the regular FLARC logo or the still-cool 60th anniversary logo. Note: **RED** is the primary and preferred club standard shirt color.

## Ham Radio Is Contagious And It Won't Make You Sick!!

### Oh Yes! It's Time For The 2022 FLARC Member Survey

The 2022 FLARC member survey arrived in your email box on December 1<sup>st</sup>

This year the questionnaire is different than prior years (thank you!) but no less important as it reflects a lot of the changes brought about by COVID-19.

We'll present the results at a February or March meeting via Zoom.



FLARC at W1AW February 2018  
Looking good in red!

### 2022 FLARC Nets On The W2NPT Repeater:

*Near and Far Net Mondays at 8PM*

*Health and Welfare Net Wednesdays at 7PM*

*W2NPT and NJ2BS Repeaters*



## Summer Field Day will be here before you know it!

Field Day will be here before you know it. We are looking for some members to step up and make 2022 a great event. . This should be an active group so a willingness to participate is a strong plus. Let Nomar know of your willingness to help at

[np4h@aol.com](mailto:np4h@aol.com)



**Remember:  
Ham Radio Is A Contact Sport!**

### BEQUEATHS AND DONATIONS

Planned gifts usually imply the family donation of amateur equipment to the club when someone has become a Silent Key. But it can be more. Club members might consider making a gift through a will or trust; gifts that help provide lifetime income to the club. Consult with your lawyer, estate planner or tax advisor if you feel such a gift is worthy.

### About The Club

*The Resonator* is published monthly and is the official (and only) newsletter of The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club. FLARC was established in 1956 and has met continuously since inception. **The club is sponsored by the Borough of Fair Lawn.** The club meets every Friday, except when a Kawfee Tawk is scheduled, at 6PM at the club station in The Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30 PM at the club, and on Zoom.

Visitors **ARE ALWAYS** welcome at our meetings.

FLARC operates the W2NPT repeater (145.470-PL 167.9) located high atop the Community Center. The analog repeater is open to all amateurs for use without restrictions.

The club has over one hundred fifty paid members.  
Dues are currently     \$25 per year;  
                                     \$20 for new members.

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### Our Weekly Welfare net ...

**The Health and Welfare Umbrella Net**  
**Wednesdays**  
**7PM Local**  
**W2NPT and NJ2BS Repeaters**  
**Open To All**

### PUBLICITY COMMITTEE NEWS

The Publicity Committee is seeking new members to help grow the club with its varied activities. Enthusiasm desired... no experience necessary. Contact Ed WX2R or any other committee member.



**FAIR LAWN'S  
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER!**  
***With Our Antennas On The Roof!***



## Past FLARC Member Profiles

Here is a list of past member features and we welcome your recommendations for new profiles -- including your own.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2016	Pete	KB2BMX
February	Marco	KC2ZMA
March	Ron	KC2TBD
April	Kai	K2TRW
May	Larry	WA2ALY
June	Dave	N8MAR
July	Steve	W12W
August	Thom	W2NZ
September	Brian	KD2KLN
October	Brad	KM2C
November	Al	WA2OWL
December	George	W3EH
January 2017	Fred	W2ABE
February	Dave	KD2MOB
March	Randy	WU2S
April	Lee	KD2DRS
May	Gene	WO2W
June	Carol	KD2NMV
July	Kevin	KC2KCC
August	Robert	KD2NOG
September	Robert	KD2BKD
October	John	KD2NRS
November	Fred	W2AAB
December	Margaret	W2GB
January 2018	Brian	KD2OAZ
February	Bennett	KO2OK
March	Van	W2DLT
April	Aly	ALØY
May	Bruce	NJ2BK
June	Dave	N2AAM
July	Karl and Susan	W2KBF and W2SKT
August	Steve	KA2YRA
September	Paul	K2PJC
October	Skip	KD2BRV
November	Jim	W2JC
December	Tom	N2AAX

By the way, Randy (WU2S) has compiled a binder of all back issues of *The Resonator* and it's located in the club office.

Thanks Randy!!!

## 2019-20 Member Profiles

The year is now complete and here is a list of the 2019 monthly profiles. See past profiles elsewhere in *The Resonator* to check back in the archives to see each featured member's background.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2019	Dave	KD2JIP
February	Jim	K2ZO
March	Zach	KC2RSS
April	Bob	N2SU
May	Stan	KC2K
June	Steve	WA2BYX
July	Roger	K2RRB
August	Judith	KC2LTM
September	Chris	W2TU
October	Bob	N2SU
November	Bob	WA2ISE
December	Carol	KD2NMV
January 2020	Gordon	W2TTT
February	Chris	KD2JQZ
March	Glenn	KD2MDR
April	Steve	K2SAB
May	Ahmed	NJ8Y
June	Charlie	AC2ZU
July	Jim	N2JLF
August	Walt	K3DQB
September	Gregg	N2ECH
October	Jim	W2KNG
November	Dave	KD2SGM
December	Bill	NB1ILL

## 2021 Member Profiles

Here is a list of the 2021 monthly profiles.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2021	Ed	KD2TVT
February	John	W2USN
March	Noel	W2MSA
April	Gene	KD2VNI
May	Berlotte	KD2MYF
June	Noel	N2OEL
July	Roy	KD2VMX
August	Jeremy	K2GRI
September	Bill	WA2WL
October	Nomar	NP4H
November	David	AC2GL
December	Paul	N6FB/MØJOV

### At Deadline — Current Response to the FLARC Member Survey

As of press time, we have received 115 member surveys. This is our greatest numerical response yet (last two years were both 114) so a big thanks. But with more members, our response rate is a bit lower than prior years.

You can help improve that by taking a few minutes (if you haven't done it yet) and complete the survey and by doing so, help the club make decisions that you want for 2022 and beyond.

Results will be shared in late February or early March. Thanks!

Here is the link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XSGGZ7N>

### Blood Donors Needed In This Time Of Emergency

The Red Cross and related organizations are in great need for blood donations since most corporate blood drives have been cancelled. This has become acute recently. Especially in these days of Covid.

[Communitybloodservices.com](https://www.communitybloodservices.com) has a network of offices open during the week and would really welcome folks making appointments to donate blood.

Thanks!



**American  
Red Cross**

### FLARC December 11, 2021 VE Testing Results

With VE testing back on schedule, Gene WO2W reports the following results:

Name	Call	License Earned
Kurt Rieger	KD2WUJ	Extra
Carl Bryant Jr	W2GOV	General

Testing for January will be at the Fair Lawn Recreation Center - with "Covid Restrictions."

See page 2 of this Resonator copy, and also the FLARC website for the latest details.

### Eight Special Interest Groups [SIGs] Already Formed: Any Others?

We may be in lockdown but there is no lack of club interest. So far, we have the Radio Monitoring Group and a Digital Voice Modes, group thanks to KD2DRS and NP4H. There is also an FT8 SIG. And a POTA SIG headed up by Noel W2MSA plus a DX SIG. Recently formed: EmComm (Emergency Communications) and the Contesting SIG, managed by Van W2DLT. And the Monitoring (SWL) SIG.

Other possible groups, from the member survey, include:

- *Radio Propagation*
- *Antennas and how they work*
- *Kit building*
- *Raspberry pi and Arduino*
- *Ham radio software)*

Anyone interested in leading any of these groups...?

Please contact [webmaster@FairLawnARC.org](mailto:webmaster@FairLawnARC.org)



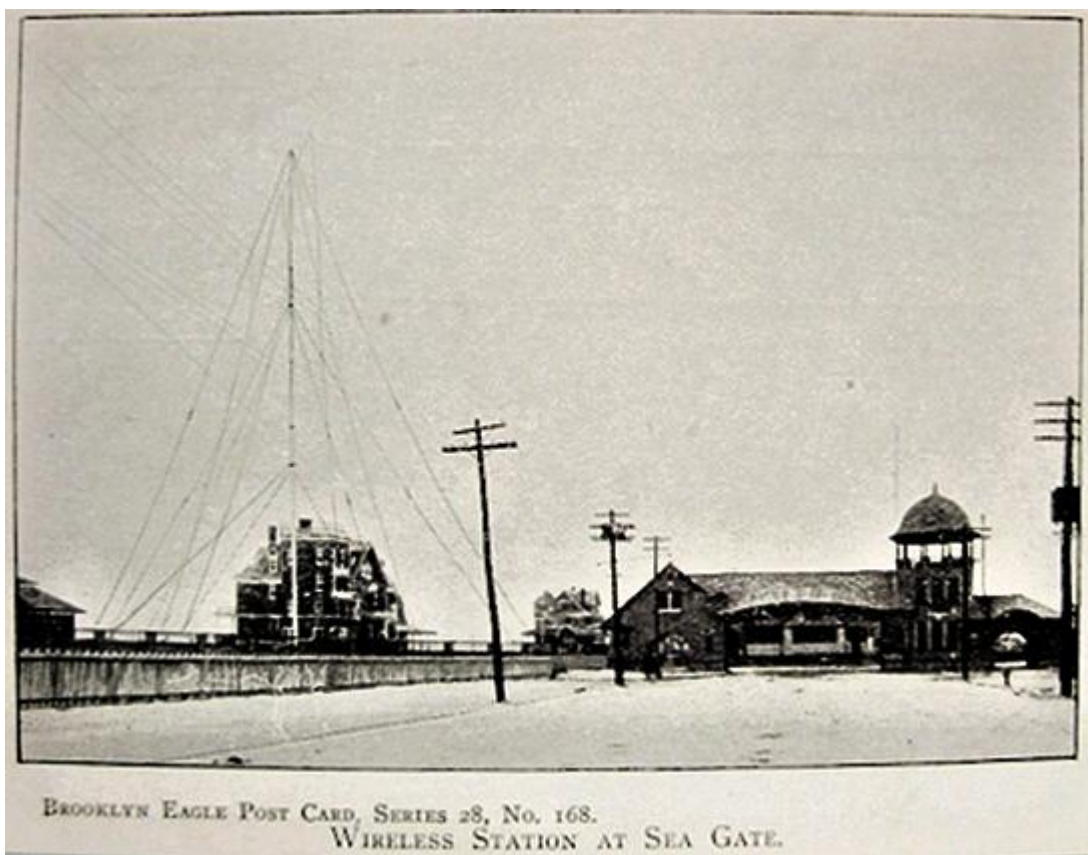


Image from May, 1926 QST, courtesy ARRL

## The Way We Were By Fred Belghaus W2AAB

### A Miscellany – Part 3

As promised, we begin the New Year with another look at some interesting old postcards and photographs, this time chiefly of commercial and military stations of long ago. Our first example dates from the early 1900s. It is a photo of the Marconi operated coastal wireless station at Sea Gate, in Brooklyn. The guyed vertical antenna is at left, but barely visible.



BROOKLYN EAGLE POST CARD, SERIES 28, No. 168.  
WIRELESS STATION AT SEA GATE.

The Sea Gate station was established in 1906, and it was one of the first commercial wireless stations established on Long Island. The first such station was at Siasconset, on Nantucket Island, in 1901. The second two were at Sagaponack and Babylon, Long Island, in 1902. The Sea Gate station was next, [1] having the call sign MSE. Sagaponack's call was MSK. [2] Babylon's call is unknown. Sagaponack and Sea Gate operated on 350 meters (approximately 850 kiloHertz). Sagaponack's transmitter ran 2 kilowatts, but no power is published for Sea Gate. [3]

## **The Way We Were, continued.**

These stations were used to handle message traffic with ships. The mode was telegraphy using spark. Messages were charged by the word, just like landline telegraph. In those days, there were no radio licenses yet, and the call signs were “invented” by whoever was the owner of the station. In this case, the “M” in the call denotes ownership by the Marconi Company. Another very famous Marconi-owned station was MGY, the call sign of the ill fated Titanic. The Sea Gate station played a role in handling messages as part of rescue efforts for the Titanic.

One of the personnel at Sea Gate in the early years was a teenager by the name of David Sarnoff. Sarnoff had first been hired as Junior Wireless Operator in 1907. He then served as a Full Wireless Operator at Siasconset from 1908 to 1909. He was then appointed Night Manager of the Sea Gate station in 1909-10, and almost immediately transferred to a management position at the Wanamaker’s department store in Manhattan. [4] Despite claims to the contrary, Sarnoff did not handle messages to or from the Titanic. That was mere self-promotion, and long ago debunked by other researchers. At the Wanamaker store, he only listened to the Titanic message traffic being sent by others.

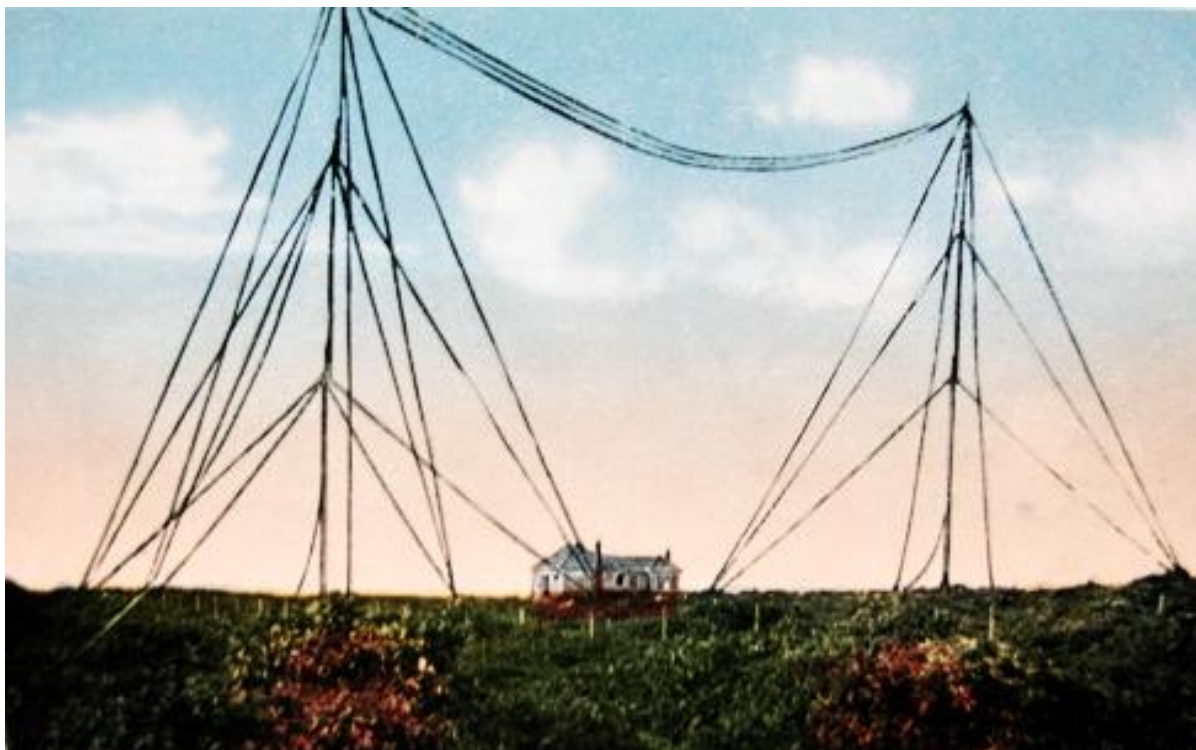


Sarnoff “at the key” at Sea Gate, but not handling Titanic traffic!

Image: <https://davidsarnoff.tcnj.edu/david-sarnoff/david-sarnoff-timeline/>

## **The Way We Were, continued.**

Earlier, we mentioned the Marconi wireless station at Siasconset, where David Sarnoff worked briefly as an operator. Here's a postcard showing the antenna farm at Siasconset:



Although undated, this photo probably dates from some time later than when Sarnoff worked there. The antenna is a cage type, containing several wires, but the feeder wire is not visible in the photo. The cage antenna was typical in the period just after World War I, and used extensively through the 1920s. The supports are two masts, heavily guyed at three levels.

Another early Marconi station was established in 1902 in Canada. It was located on Table Rock, at Glace Bay on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. The name Glace Bay is derived from the French “Baie de Glace,” meaning “icy bay.” In cold weather, it was frequently littered with large chunks of ice.



## The Way We Were, continued.

Here's a postcard showing a view of the Marconi station at Glace Bay:



There is no legible postmark on the card, but the postage stamp is a 1 cent green, with an engraved image of King George V.

This stamp was issued in 1911, so the postcard probably dates from that year. [5]

The postcard shows the four wooden lattice towers, each 200 feet high. Not visible in the picture are the four wires extending downward from each tower, forming an inverted pyramid with the apex pointing towards the ground, [6] and terminating in a single wire feed, another typical antenna for high power commercial stations of that era.





## The Way We Were, continued.

Figure “g” below is the type antenna used at Cape Race, but with only four wires suspended from the four wooden towers:

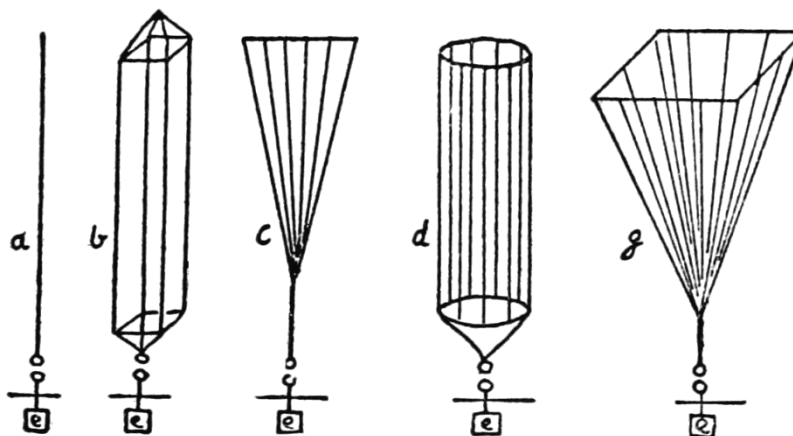
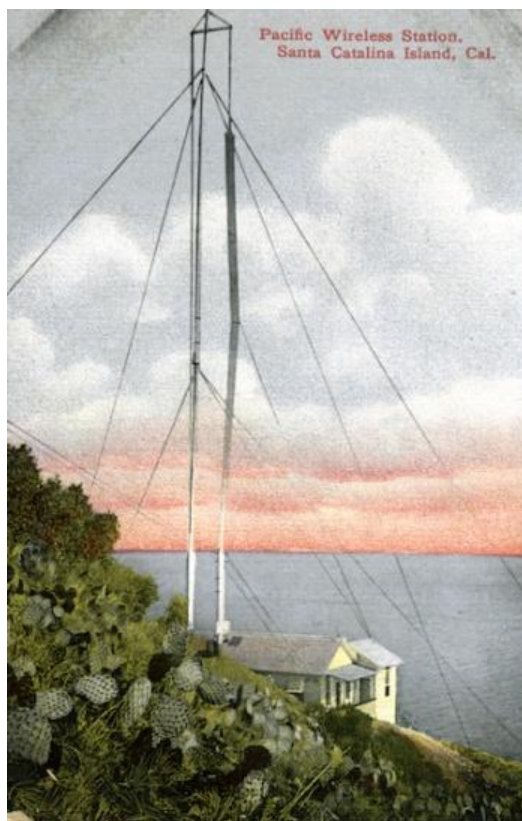


Image:

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:PSM\\_V63\\_D117\\_Various\\_forms\\_of\\_marconi\\_antennae.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:PSM_V63_D117_Various_forms_of_marconi_antennae.png)

Another early wireless station was established on Catalina Island, off the California coast. It was commonly known as “Catalina Wireless,” and was built in 1902 by the Pacific Wireless Telegraph Company. [7] Here’s an early postcard showing the station:

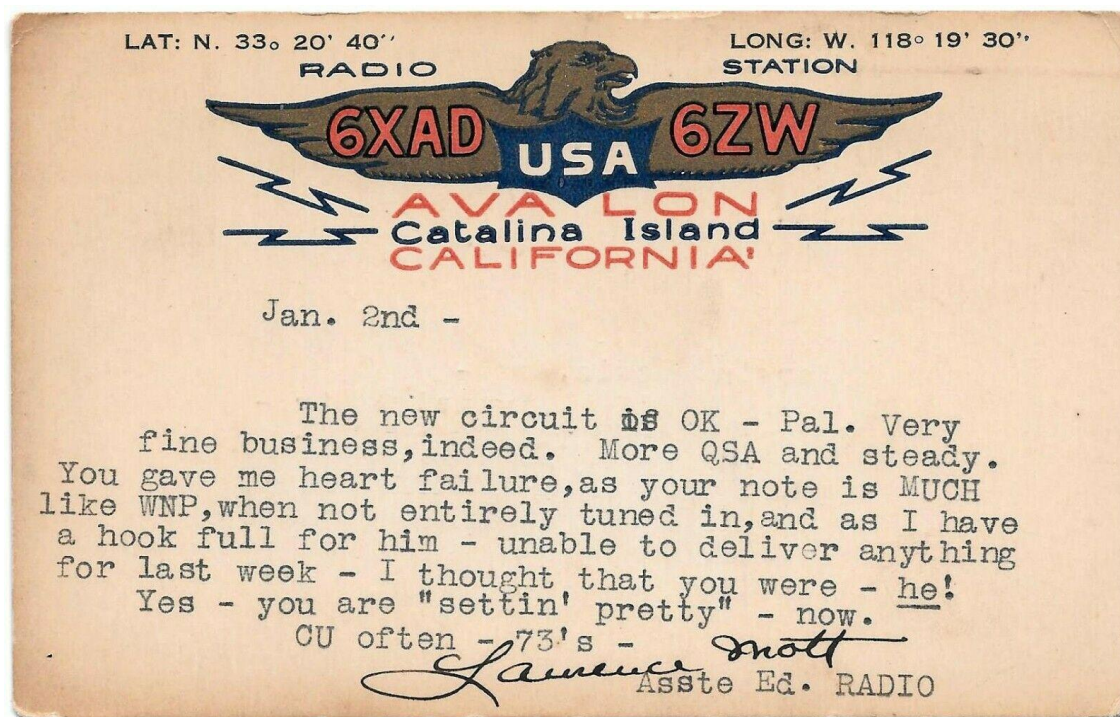


## The Way We Were, continued.

The supporting masts were 160 feet high. The antenna wire is vertical, one half inch thick, and suspended from the arm at the top of the masts. The station operated off 110 Volt A.C., and the induction coil producing the current for the spark was reported to consist of 120 miles of silk covered wire [wound around a soft iron core]. In addition to the antenna wire, other wires were run from the station down to the ocean to act as a ground system, [8] and to thereby improve antenna efficiency.

There was also a second station set up at White's Point, 24 miles from the Island, solely as a receiving station. The purpose of this station was for the operator to copy all messages sent by the Catalina station in typewritten form, in order to keep a permanent record of all messages handled. [9]

Some years later, another station was built at Avalon on Catalina Island, operated by Laurence Mott. He held both Experimental call 6XAD and Special Land Station call 6ZW. Here's a colorful QSL card from Mott's station, dating from 1925:



Mott was well known to amateur operators, and was a pioneer broadcaster – having established station KFWO in the 1920s. He was Associate Editor of *Radio* magazine, which would evolve into a major publication for radio amateurs in the 1920s and '30s, merging with *R/9* magazine, and continuing to publish until the 1940s, eventually becoming *CQ* magazine in 1945.

## **The Way We Were, continued.**

A detailed account of 6XAD is given in *QST* for April, 1922, here: <https://books.google.com/books?id=1NQ1AQAAAMAJ&pg=PA147-IA22&lpg=PA147-IA22&dq=laurence+mott+catalina+island+ca>

Additional biographical data can be found at <http://oldqslcards.com/Mott.pdf> and <https://www.islapedia.com/index.php?title=MOTT, Major Jordan Lawrence>

From Port Huron, Michigan, we find a photo of an early wireless operator at a station built by the man known as the “Wireless Wizard” in 1907:



The “Wireless Wizard” was Thomas E. Clark, who established the Clark Wireless System in March of 1907. Clark built five stations, located at Detroit, Michigan running 5 kW; Cleveland, Ohio, (10 kW); Port Huron, Michigan (10 kW); Buffalo, New York (15 kW); and Toledo, Ohio (2 kW), handling messages for ships on the Great Lakes. He also provided a training course for new operators at his company’s main office. [10]

Clark was an early protégé of such notables as Thomas Edison, Charles Steinmetz, Henry Ford and Nikola Tesla. He was also the consulting engineer involved in the construction of broadcasting station WWJ in Detroit, one of the first commercial radio stations in the United States. His work with Henry Ford included the development of an

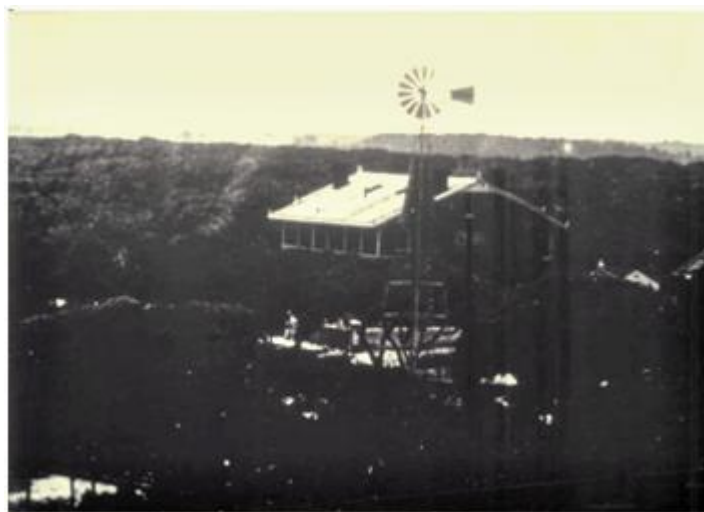
## The Way We Were, continued.

electric ignition system, and later he designed a fully electric car, which never made it to market. He also owned the largest automotive shop in Detroit as early as 1902. Amazingly, Clark held no engineering degree, and was largely self-educated. [11]

Here are a few postcards showing various early military radio stations. Our first is the U.S. Navy station at Anastasia Island, off the coast of St. Augustine, Florida.



The card dates from around 1910, and shows the guyed vertical antenna at left. The small tower to the right of the headquarters building is a windmill.



Clearer view of the windmill

Image: [https://www.staugustinelighthouse.org/explore-learn/exhibits/staugustinehistoricphotos/#iLightbox\[image\\_carousel\\_2\]/14](https://www.staugustinelighthouse.org/explore-learn/exhibits/staugustinehistoricphotos/#iLightbox[image_carousel_2]/14)

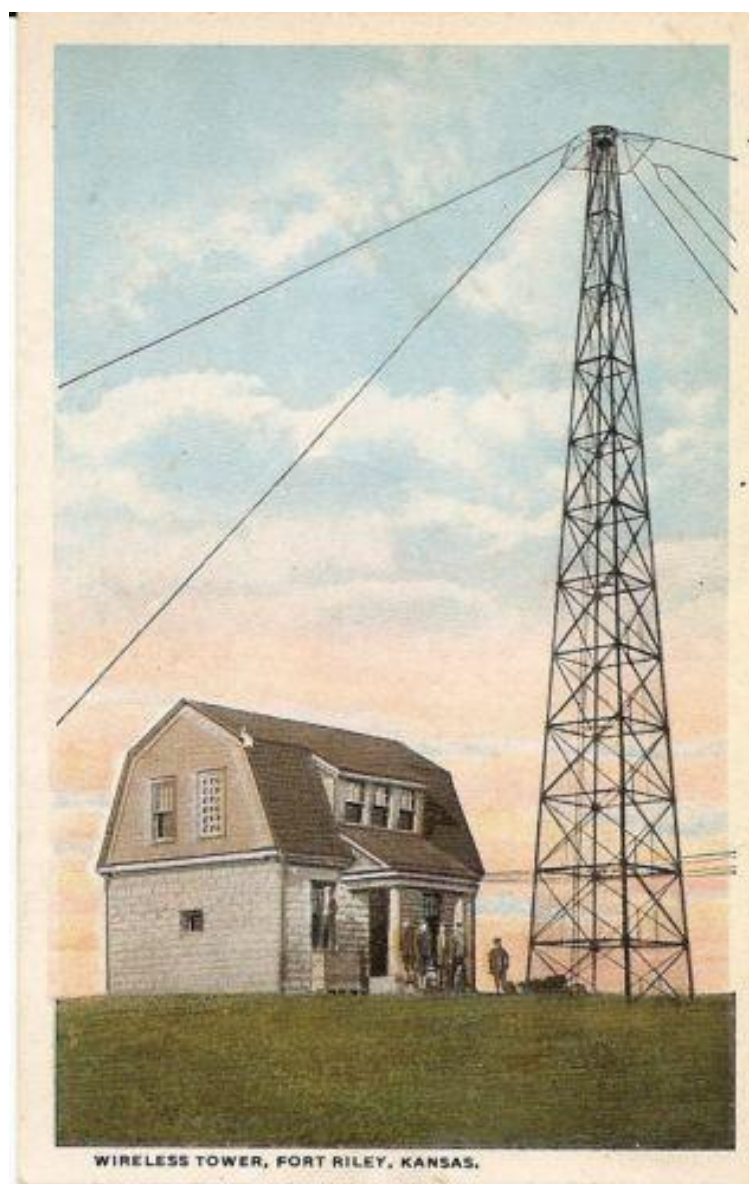
Information about this station is sketchy at best, but here's what is known: the station became active in 1905 but by the 1930s, it was no longer being used. At the end of



## **The Way We Were, continued.**

World War II, the station was sold by the Government to a Mr. Thomas Keegan, who passed the property on to his nieces, Ms. Nancy Powers and her sister Phyllis in 1970. [12] By inference, it appears that the site was used by the U.S. Coast Guard during both World War I and again during World War II, and that there is a National Guard encampment in St. Augustine, 3 miles away. Anastasia Island now is the site of a State Park. (What a great place to activate for POTA, especially with its radio history)!

Here's a card showing the U.S. Army wireless station at Fort Riley, Kansas:



This station was already in operation by 1910, as reported by one periodical referencing electrical work done at the station in that year. [13] The postcard,

## The Way We Were, continued.

however, shows an all metal tower, which would probably date it somewhat later, perhaps to the early 1920s. Here's a view of the "Wireless Classroom" at the Fort Riley hospital building from around 1920:



Image: <https://www.cardcow.com/878434/fort-riley-kansas-wireless-class-room-base-hospital/>

One of the most famous U.S. Naval radio stations is located at Key West, Florida. The station was established in 1905 as part of the Navy's Coastal Signal Service. The Coastal Signal Service had stations operating along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Louisiana and Florida, with additional stations at San Juan, Puerto Rico, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and Colon, Panama.

Key West's call sign was NAR, and it is still in operation today under the same call. The station provided ship communications during the Cuban Blockade mission in 1962. In 1997, ten additional HF transmitters were added to the installation. [14]



## The Way We Were, continued.

Our first image shows the Key West station as it looked in 1910:

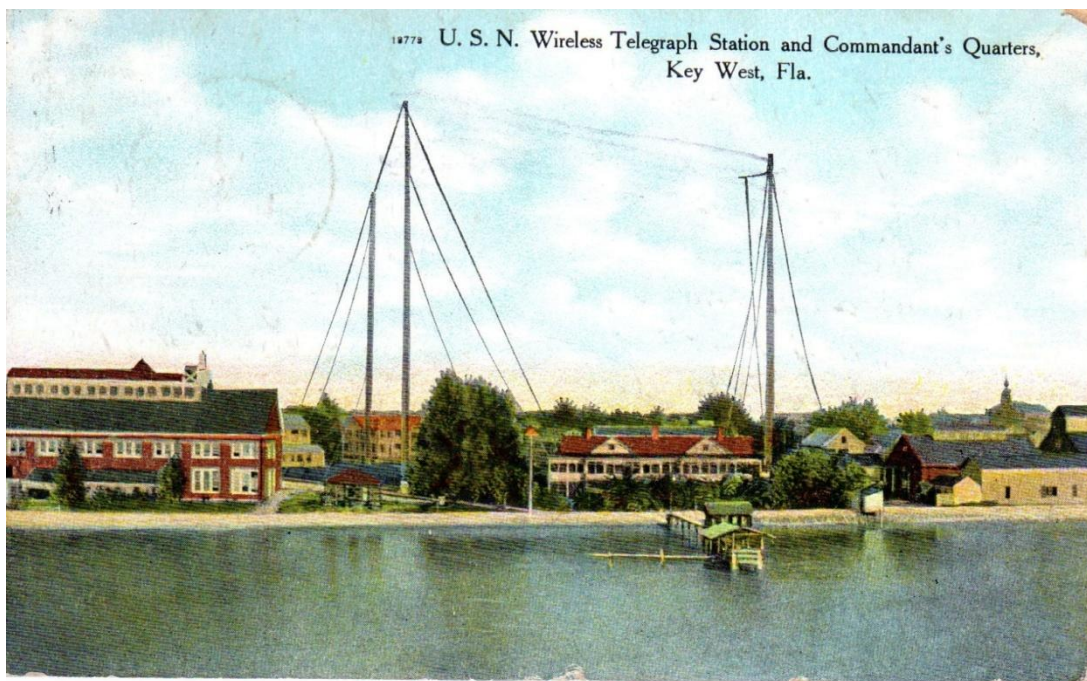


Image: eBay

By 1914, the masts were replaced by steel towers, as shown here:

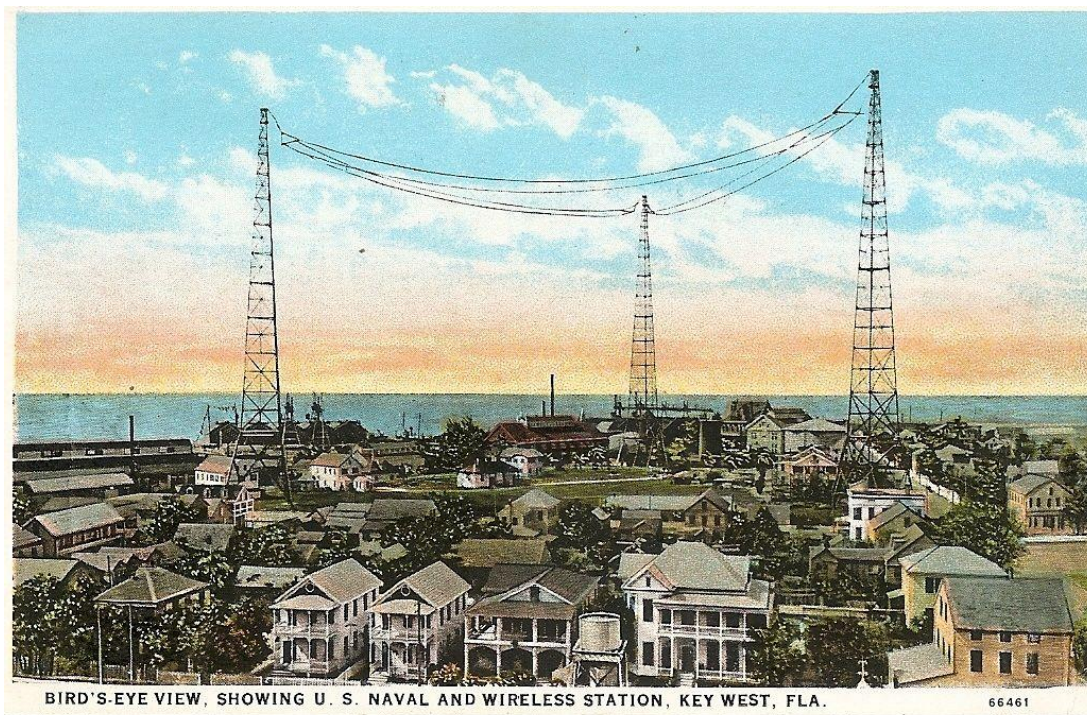


Image: <https://www.navy-radio.com/commsta/keywest.htm>

## **The Way We Were, continued.**

Here's a much more recent, but undated, photo below:

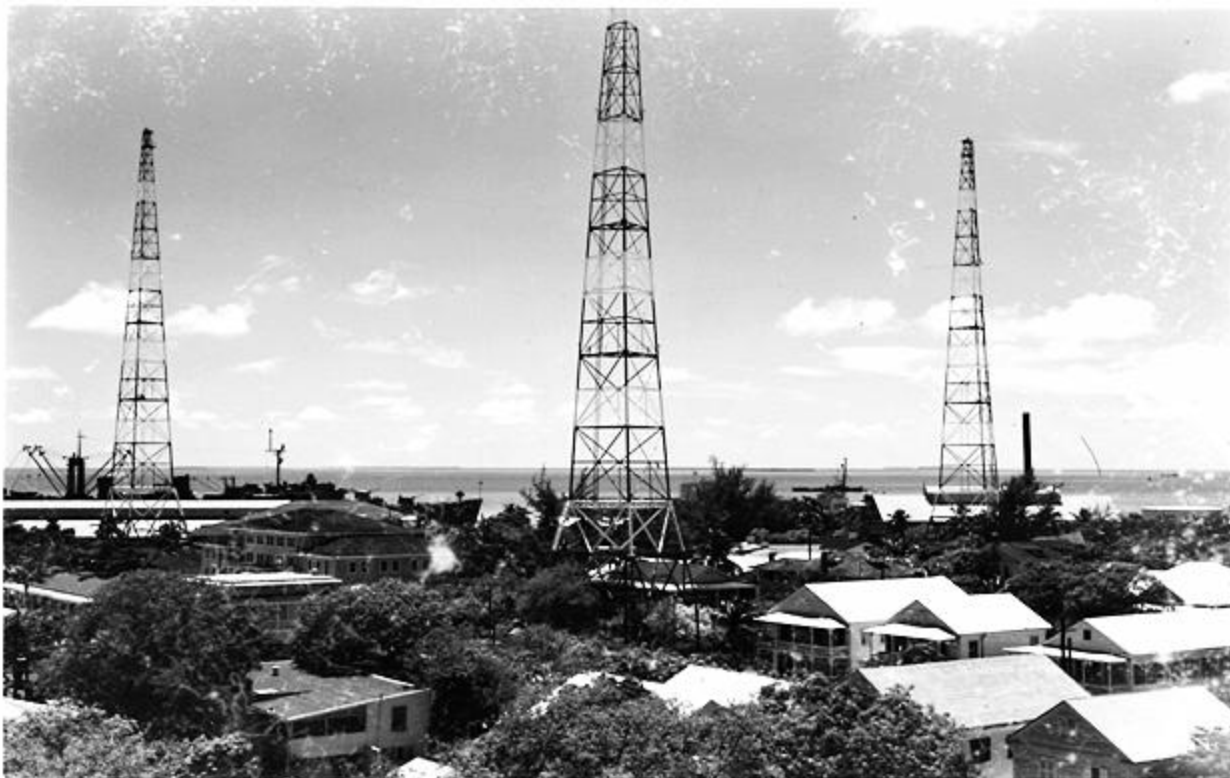


Image: <https://www.navy-radio.com/commsta/keywest.htm>

Since 2009, the Boca Chica receiving site includes thirty nine R-2368/URR receivers, and the Saddlebunch Key transmitter site includes twenty four FRT-96 transmitters and twenty three URC-119/URT-42 transceivers. [15]

By far, the most famous of all Navy radio stations was NAA, originally located at Fort Myer, (Arlington) Virginia. It was built by the U.S. Navy on land ceded to it by the War Department, with construction beginning in 1911, and was fully operational by 1913. It continued to operate from that location until 1941. It was the first high power radio station operated by the U.S. Navy for communication across the United States and the Caribbean, originally running a 100 kilowatt spark transmitter and a 35 kilowatt Poulsen Arc transmitter. Later, both were replaced by CW transmitters that operated for many years. In addition to handling traffic from Navy ships, it also broadcast navigational warnings and time signals whose source was the Naval Observatory. [16] Hams growing up during this period often used the time signals and other messages for code practice.

I did the same, but much later. There were no time signals by then, but I recall listening to NAA's rock crushing signal as a young Novice class in the early 1960s. By



## The Way We Were, continued.

1961, the station had been relocated to Cutler, Maine, and its power raised to 2 Megawatts. When I heard it, the marker signal repeated the following message over and over again, until it was interrupted when communicating with a ship: "VVV VVV VVV DE NAA NAA NAA OS OS OS." I have never been able to find out what the "OS" meant. At Cutler, NAA was the strongest station to be heard anywhere on the HF bands. Here's a postcard of the original NAA in Virginia, probably dating from the 1920s:

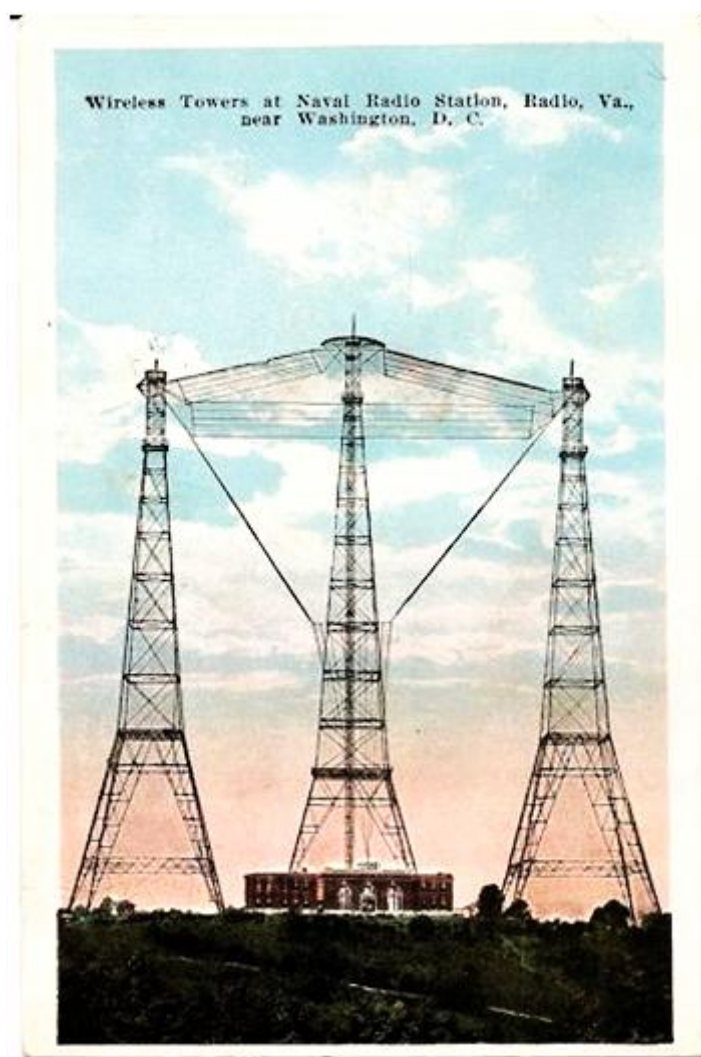


Image: eBay

In 1941, with the decommissioning of the NAA station at Arlington, its three new 600 foot towers installed in 1938 and radio equipment were transferred to Navy station NSS at Annapolis, Maryland. The remaining older steel towers (as shown above) were demolished to make way for an airport at the Arlington site. In 1945,

## The Way We Were, continued.

after the move and subsequent demolition of the original towers, time signals would be broadcast from the National Bureau of Standards station WWV at Greenbelt, Maryland. [17] WWV would continue to operate at Greenbelt until 1966, when it was moved to Boulder City, Colorado. [18]

The NAA of today continues to operate, but on VLF only (24 kilohertz), using very narrow shift, low data rate FSK. It is the only East Coast Navy station remaining on VLF, [19] whose signals are primarily directed to serve the U.S. Navy's submarine fleet.

Here's a nice example of U.S. Army radio operating during World War II. The postcard shows an operator at Scott Field (now Scott Air Force Base), Belleville, Illinois, in 1941.



Image: eBay

At left, in the larger box, is a BC-191 transmitter, primarily intended for field deployment, while the smaller box at right contains a BC-348 receiver. These units operated chiefly on HF, but could also be used on lower frequencies. The BC-191 had a twin, the BC-375, which was intended for airborne use, and which was used in thousands of B-17 bombers along with the mating BC-348 receiver.

The bottom half of the transmitter cabinet contains one of the several "Tuning Units" that would be plugged in by means of a string of eight banana plugs in the transmitter and mating jacks in the Tuning Unit. These units allowed operation on frequency bands from 200 kilohertz to 12.5 Megahertz. Here's a close-up view of one of the

## The Way We Were, continued.

Tuning Units:



Image: eBay

With a little ingenuity, these could be re-purposed to make a low power transmitter or ATU (Antenna Tuning Unit) useful on the HF amateur bands. The BC-348 receiver was quite useful for amateurs, and many were used by us well into the 1960s and beyond.



BC-348 Receiver

Image: <http://www.vmarsmanuals.co.uk/new/bc348.htm>

The BC-375 normally operated off 24 to 28 Volts D.C., which corresponded to the 28 Volt electrical systems in U.S. Army Air Corps aircraft. It was part of the SCR-287 Set, which also included a BC-348 receiver. The transmitter was capable of about 90 Watts maximum, and could be operated on CW, ICW, or AM phone. [20] The term



## The Way We Were, continued.

“ICW” means Interrupted Continuous Waves, which was a telegraphic mode that inserted a tone when the transmitter was keyed, so the signal could be copied on an AM-only receiver. These transmitters were designed in the 1930s, and used four rather old fashioned large triodes.

They were first replaced by the ARC-5/Command Set series, and later by the AN/ART-13 transmitters, the latter including an “autotune” feature designed by Collins Radio. Nevertheless, all these transmitters found use in many ham shacks from the late 1940s up to the 1960s and beyond, and all are very collectible today.

Here are two fascinating postcards from the early 1900s, showing the wireless stations operated by the Agence Havas Information, commonly known as Agence France-Presse, the well known French News Agency. These stations were located at Les Saintes Maries de la Mer, a fishing village within the town of Camargue, Provence, in the South of France. Today, this fishing village is a popular tourist spot. [21]

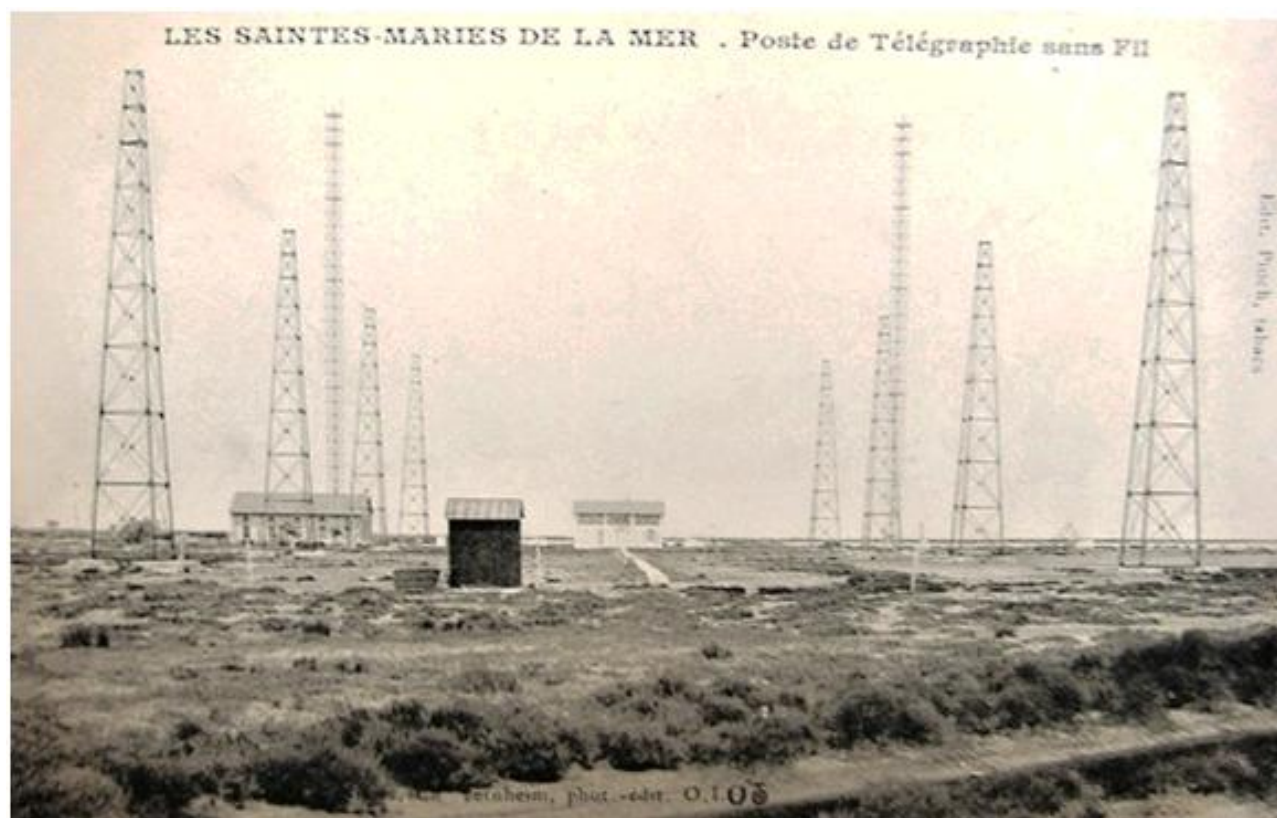


Image: eBay



## The Way We Were, continued.



Image: eBay

The top image is the transmitting location with its forest of ten towers. The bottom picture shows the receiving station, but from a later period, probably around 1920. Before the days of highly developed wire services and internet news feeds, news agencies both sent dispatches and received them from other sources nationally and internationally by radio stations like this.

On the topic of news agencies using radio, here's a novelty. It's a QSL card from station 2UO, dating from the late 1920s. Notice the station licensee.

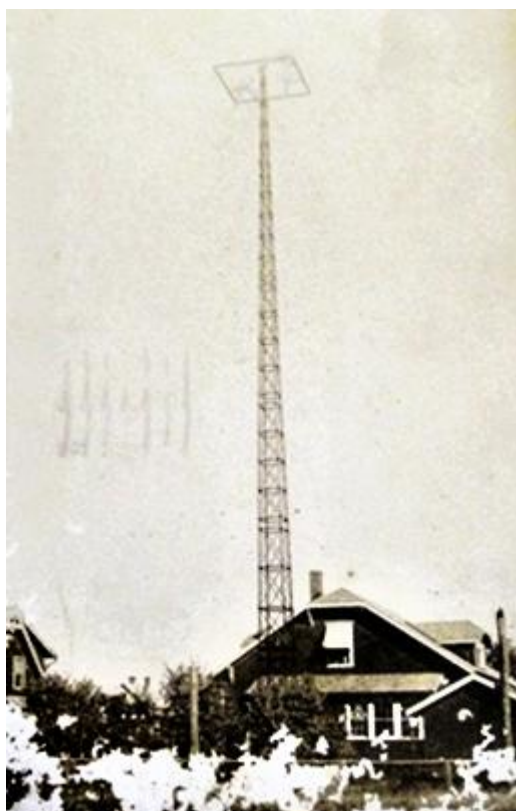


### **The Way We Were, continued.**

The card confirms a contact with Canadian amateur 3CS in Ontario, and that the transmitter ran 900 Watts in a Tuned Plate Tuned Grid (T.P.T.G.) circuit. The transmitter was located on the 17<sup>th</sup> floor of the *Times* annex and operated remotely from the radio room on the 3rd floor. Though I cannot cite the source, the *Times* station was later shut down by the Federal Radio Commission (predecessor of the F.C.C.) because of some unknown violation of radio law.

The *New York Times* wasn't the only newspaper that had an amateur station. In the September 1928 Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine, there is listed the call 2KW, licensed to the *New York Telegram*, 87 Dey Street, New York City. The *Telegram* later evolved, through mergers, into the *New York Telegram and Sun*, and finally, the *Journal American*. None of these newspapers exist today. There may well be other examples like these during the 1920s. Even Public Service Electric & Gas Company had an amateur station at its Essex Power Station in Newark with the call 2SW, and Wanamaker's Department Store in New York City once held the call 2QA. Eventually, no such commercial enterprises were allowed to hold an amateur license, except for a company's amateur radio club.

Here's a curious photographic card dating from 1923:



## **The Way We Were, continued.**

It was sent to station 4FT in Wilmington, North Carolina, postmarked Paterson, New Jersey, on November 7, 1923. The picture was taken to inform 4FT that he had a “new 20 Watt set,” that he had called 4FT several times but was not heard, and adding: “How do you like my new spreader?”

From the looks of that tower, I would guess that it was about 70 feet high, with a capacity hat on top. The “spreader” mentioned probably refers to the cross-arms reinforcing the capacity hat on top of the tower.

There is no call sign written on the card from the Paterson ham, so I wondered who he might be. In order to solve this mystery, a search of calls licensed in Paterson in 1923 was undertaken. After searching the U.S. Government Call Book, I believe I have identified him. There were 16 amateur stations in Paterson in 1923, but only one licensed for 20 Watts. He was William Rossler, 51 James Street, and his call was 2BLB. [22]



If you look carefully at the house on the left (above) with brown shingles, (49-51 James Street), there is a resemblance to the house shown on the old card. The view is from a different angle, so that must be taken into account, but I believe we have a match. The tower and, needless to say, Mr. Rossler are both long gone, and nothing further can be discovered about him from online sources.

Next month, I am planning to cover some old-time broadcast stations, and provide some history about them.

Until next month, 73,

Fred W2AAB



## The Way We Were, continued.

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- [3] Ibid.
- [4] "David Sarnoff Timeline," From: The Sarnoff Collection, *The College of New Jersey*, at: <https://davidsarnoff.tcnj.edu/david-sarnoff/david-sarnoff-timeline/>
- [5] "Canada Postage Stamps: 1911," *Postage Stamp Guide*, at: <https://postagestampguide.com/canada/years/1911>
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- [7] Rouse, W.J., "Wireless Telegraph to Catalina Island is in Working Order," *Los Angeles Herald*, August 3, 1902, Part 4, Page 8, at: <http://earlyradiohistory.us/1902ava.htm>
- [8], [9] Ibid, "System and its Scope."
- [10] Clark, Thomas E., "Wireless Telegraph and Telephone," (Address before the Detroit Engineering Society, December 20, 1907), *Journal of the Association of Engineering Societies*, Vol. 40, No. 3, March, 1908, pp. 137-138, at: <https://books.google.com/books?id=Rp4PAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA137&lpg=PA137&dq=clark+wireless+station+Pt.+Huro&source=bl&ots=yblqfN38cK&sig=ACfU3UOniGA-yqrK24hafoYiFRMOYicZ3w&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjv0pr5ql70AhWtY98KHa6yAvEQ6AF6BAgQEAM#v=onepage&q=clark%20wireless%20station%20Pt.%20Huro&f=false>
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- [12] Titcomb, Jason, "What's in a Collection? U.S. Coast Guard Pin," *St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum*, November 4, 2015, at: <https://www.staugustinelighthouse.org/2015/11/04/whats-in-a-collection-u-s-coast-guard-pin/>
- [13] "Trade Notes," Wireless Telegraphy section, *Electrician and Mechanic*, Vol. XXI, No. 6, December, 1910, pp. xii.
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- [15] Ibid.
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## **EmComm Special Interest Group [Emergency Communications]**

### **Fair Lawn RACES/ARES Corner**



Welcome to 2022!! The Fair Lawn ARES team, which is part of the NENJ ARES group (consisting of Fair Lawn ARES, Passaic County ARES and Bergen County ARES) has New Jersey covered!!

Winter is here and with the cold weather comes Winter Field Day. More information on Winter Field Day will be provided in either the next column or in emails to the group sometime in January.

As emergency communications volunteers, we participate in community relations. On Thursday, February 3rd at 7:00 PM we will be providing Fair Lawn CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) with a presentation on radio communications (traffic and handling), and what Fair Lawn ARES and the Fair Lawn Radio Club (FLARC) provides to the greater community.

The meeting will be held at Room 201 of the Fair Lawn Municipal Building. We will be requesting volunteers to be available either in person, on frequency or on Echolink.

I would like to thank the ARES members who volunteered for the Rotary 5k run, which took place on January 1st.

The Fair Lawn ARES Net takes place every Wednesday at 8:00 PM. The ARES Net combines FL-ARES with Bergen County ARES and Passaic County ARES for one weekly Northeast NJ ARES Net. I would like to thank Aly ALØY, Ed KD2TVZ and Jim N2JLF for being the Net Control Operators (NCO) or alternate Net Control Operators (ANCO). Job well done!!

I'd like to direct you to a great website which gives us access and information for our training sessions –

<https://harriscountyares.org/training/training.php>

Everything from knowledge based training to safety, weather and messaging is included on this website. When you have the opportunity, please check it out.

Our Nets are open to all amateur radio enthusiasts. Our ARES members, who are volunteers, are able to assist anyone with answers to questions they may have regarding emergency communications. We are on the following Repeaters and Echolink:

The Fair Lawn ARC Repeater info is: RX 145.47 MHz / TX 144.87, PL Tone 167.9 Hz. Echolink W2NPT-R.

The NJ2BS Repeater info is: RX 146.835 MHz / TX 146.235, PL Tone 151.4 Hz. Echolink KD2BKD-L.

FL-ARES would like to thank the FLARC for the use of its repeater, as well as the Venture Crew 73 73 Club for the use of their repeater.

We are fortunate to make Fair Lawn and the surrounding communities our home. With our leadership and support from the FLARC we can grow and be of assistance in many community events. We are always seeking new members to join FL-ARES.

Info on FL-RACES is as follows: Our next FL-RACES KB2FLR net will take place on Wednesday, January 12th at 8:00 PM (same time as the ARES Net) on the Fair Lawn ARC Repeater as well as the NJ2BS Repeater (frequencies noted above). Thank you to the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club for permitting FL-RACES to use the repeater.

FL-RACES is part of several RACES groups which operate within Bergen County and from time to time has training opportunities with Bergen County RACES. We will be the Net Control Operating Station for the BC-RACES Net on March 23, 2022 at 7:45 PM and will be the Net Control Operating Station once again in November. Thank

Continued on next page.

## Fair Lawn RACES/ARES Corner, cont.

you to those who have taken part as the Net Control Station in the past. Our monthly briefings will hopefully take place soon at the FLARC in person!! Stay tuned.

Please join us for the next FL-RACES briefing which takes place after the FLARC Business Meeting. The volunteer efforts of our members are very much appreciated.

If you are interested in joining the Fair Lawn RACES, please contact me. Anyone who's a licensed amateur radio operator may join Fair Lawn RACES and there's no residential requirement.

For information regarding Bergen County RACES, please go to <http://www.bcnjraces.org>

Please be safe and be well. Thank you very much.  
73. Happy New Year!!

David KD2MOB,  
Emergency Coordinator FL-ARES and  
President FL-RACES



## In A Nutshell



2021 was an eventful year to say the least. But looking forward to 2022 there are a lot of events that will fill our time; but aside from this we need to think outside the box on the conception of ham radio.

First it is the only space bound hobby [OSCAR satellites], it is the hobby that in the past and more importantly, in the future will develop and bring to practicality new and interesting technologies. Yes I know that there are some who are interested in keeping boat anchor radios in operating condition [I like reading the Audel's books from the 1920s and forties-basic laws of physics do not change], but even though it can be challenging, it is important to try to keep up with new technology or else you end up becoming a dinosaur and you know what happened to them!

So you say "radios are so complicated these days" but that does not stop us from building some simple kits or even 'rolling your own.' We all can be "Elmers" to the new hams, and thereby enhancing our own learning skills and knowledge.

As with anything, something new is a mystery until you get involved in it and DO it. The more you do, the more you can do!

But most of all aside from learning and public service, the fact is that ham radio is a hobby and needs to be enjoyable and fun to be involved in whether on the air or at a club and in person. So get involved and DO SOMETHING to improve and expand the hobby.

FRED  
W2ABE, 73!



## Ed - itorial :

### (Fill In The Blank) New Year!!

Suddenly it is 2022 and a Happy New Year to you and to FLARC. Let us all hope that it will be better than 2021 and that we will all stay healthy and be more active on the air than ever before.

The club starts out with three new faces on the Council – KD2JIP, KD2MOB and KD2KLN. All have had prior managerial experience with the club and should settle in quickly to what needs to get done. The initial objectives for the year seem straightforward:

- Get the club open more often with more members on the air from the clubhouse;
- Get 2022 activities up and running (Field Day and World Amateur Radio Day as starters) and seek out more opportunities during the year;
- Maintain the member base and then grow it – get more people involved doing things;
- Keep the financial base strong with a successful June Hamfest and November auction.

The club will also look to address member needs emerging from the Member Survey. One immediate option is to move Kawfee Tawks from Friday night to sometime during the week, to free up Fridays to open the club more.

Another is to re-purpose Wednesday nights to provide more access to the SIG groups and reduce the pressure on the Health and Welfare net.

Another possibility is to re-open the club on Tuesday nights (the original Pop-Up Tuesday) for operators and keep the Zoom Tuesday night for the social gathering it has become. These are all good ideas from listening to member suggestions and expanding the “value added” time at the clubhouse.

We will talk more about this in late February or early March when the 2022 Member Survey results are presented. This is your club and it

## Ed - itorial, continued.

should reflect what we collectively want to achieve for the coming year.

In the meantime, complete your survey and provide your input. And get involved!

What kind of year will 2022 be?

It's all up to us, isn't it??!!

73,

DE Ed WX2R

## Pandemic Theatre

The 2021 Bike MS City to Shore ride was September 25-26<sup>th</sup> and amateur radio provided the communications backbone. Here are the stats: 149 Hams, 3,300 riders, \$3.5 million raised.

Karl W2KBF, Lee KD2DRS and Ed WX2R were among the many ham volunteers. Here is a video summary on the role we played in making the event possible. See you in September!!

About 29 minutes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mou0moNZ2AM>



Cool credentials when you're a ham!



## Radio Monitoring Special Interest Group Update

[monitoring@FairLawnARC.groups.io](mailto:monitoring@FairLawnARC.groups.io)

A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in SWL and other radio communications monitoring.

### Will The Beeb Be Back? A New Year's Tale

The future of shortwave may be looking a bit brighter as the BBC Shortwave transmissions service of two decades ago is being revisited. In a time where people are distancing themselves and experiencing isolation, shortwave may just be what the world needs to re-connect people.

Due to the fact that many of the old transmitters needed to be replaced or upgraded, a decision to revisit the need for shortwave and consideration to re-launch the BBC shortwave broadcast service (cut 20 years ago) has been undertaken. Modern technology allows greater coverage and lower operating costs, re-energizing the enthusiasm for shortwave broadcasting.

Even in this high-tech world, there are still so many developing and free world countries relying heavily on shortwave radio. Not everybody in the world has smart phones, broadband, connected cars or enough disposable income — at least not yet. Nor do many have access to *TuneIn* or the World Radio Network for that matter.

Shortwave defies cultural, religious and geographical barriers. Shortwave is free and unlike most platforms available, it can be consumed anonymously. For some countries, much of their information and media is censored, so receiving updates through shortwave from neighboring countries can be the only source they can access.

Many people, especially in North Korea which is rated as the second most censored country in the world, tune in to cross border broadcasts despite serious consequences if caught by the Kim Jong-Un regime.

The BBC Shortwave transmission services used to broadcast to most of the world. Over time,

Continued in next column.

## Radio Monitoring, continued

however, many were cut thus limiting broadcasts to larger audiences in Africa and part of Asia.

As we know, currently, the major shortwave broadcasters are BBC, Voice of America, All India Radio, China Radio International, Radio Japan, Radio Romania, Radio New Zealand, Radio France International, Radio Taiwan International, KBS Korea and Voice of Turkey plus a host of smaller players.

Reinstating the previous BBC Broadcasts would mean the world of shortwave could be enjoyed cross culturally again — especially in a time where borders are closed to each other, and people are feeling isolated.

“Shortwave is just short of a miracle, actually. When it is beamed at an angle, it hits the ionosphere (a mirror around the Earth) and then it falls like a ball at great distances, beyond the horizon. Thus these transmissions reach listeners over large areas, continents and beyond. Two or three high-power transmitters can potentially cover the entire world.”

- Ruxandra Obreja (Chairman of Digital Radio Mondiale.)



## Satellite Special Interest Group Update

Satellite-SIG@FairLawnARC.groups.io

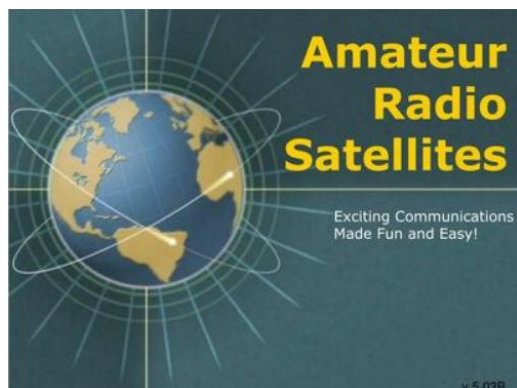
A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in amateur radio satellites, as well as others like weather, GPS, etc..

### FLARC Received Major Donation of Satellite Equipment

On December 13th, Jim W2KNG, Mitch KD2IIU, Gene WO2W and Ed WX2R visited Al NX2Q, who kindly donated his extensive satellite setup to the club to use or disperse without restriction. It is a very extensive collection of antennas, rotors, and receiver that Al used at his Clifton QTH and at many Field Days at High Point State Park.

A big thanks to Al not only for the donation but also for all the help in moving the gear to the club. Not only that, but he also became a member of FLARC!!

Thanks, and welcome to Al !!



## Satellite Special Interest Group, cont.



KD2IIU, NX2Q, WO2W, W2KNG



Satellite receiver donated by NX2Q

### Pictures received from the ISS International Space Station

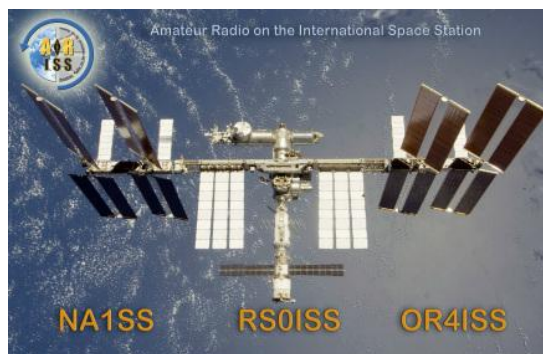
I would like to submit my pics from the ISS on behalf of the FLARC Satellite Sig. This was the first time for me, and others, attempting to capture pictures from the ISS. I had a really good time communicating with Jim W2JC, Steve KA2YRA and Steve WI2W via SLACK. I was able to capture 11 of 12 pictures, so now I have a new interest in SSTV (Slow Scan TV). Thanks to Bob KD2BKD for announcing this event ahead of time for everyone to enjoy.

73, Noel-W2MSA [Below is a sample one of the twelve.]





## The Complete Set of Images Sent By The ISS



QSL card for those reporting reception



## Proposed 2022 FLARC Activities

<u>2022 Date</u>	<u>Program</u>
Saturday- Sunday, January 29-30	Winter Field Day
Tuesday, April 12	Yuri's Night (tentative)
Monday, April 18	World Amateur Radio Day
May TBD	Portable Day with BARA
May TBD	FLARC Open House (Tentative)
Monday, May 30	Memorial Day Parade
Saturday, June 4	FLARC HAMFEST
Summer TBD	FLARC DX Camp (tentative)
June TBD	Radburn Street Fair
Saturday -Sunday, June 25-26	ARRL Field Day
July TBD	Independence Day Fireworks
October TBD	River Road Street Fair
October TBD	Portable Day with BARA

## 2022 Resonator Profiles

Month	Name	Call
January	Jim Gallo	KB2FMH
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		

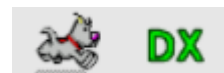
### More DX notes, from Van W2DLT

Of special interest to all HF DX operators – the long awaited 3Y0J **Bouvet Island** operation is moving forward toward a November 2022 start date. Follow updates on the web.

Also, a DXpedition to **Isla Escudo in Panama** (IOTA NA-088) using the call H94IE will take place on 4, 5 and 6 February on all HF bands. Panama is an easy work from W2 land – so it's a good chance to work a new country / IOTA entity.

IOTA = Islands On The Air

## DX Special Interest Group Update

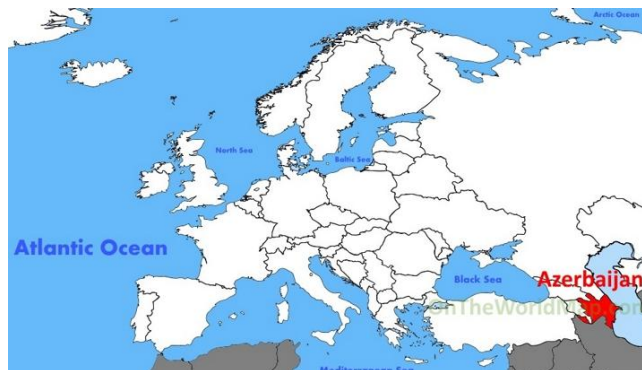


Brian N2BTD posted:

My only contact with Azerbaijan – I was calling for over 30 minutes and then finally the Op said “BTD only” and believe it or not there were two of us. Op was stunned; worked K1BTD first, then me. Most likely he heard the station in CT originally, as I was in mobile

I emailed K1BTD and thanked him for the help.

**Question to our readers:** do YOU know where Azerbaijan is actually located? [Ham radio and DXing is a great way to learn geography!]



A calendar “map” like this is always available at the FLARC Calendar page, and is updated automatically on the first of each month. It shows DXpeditions and hams that plan to operate from “rare” locations – important to those of us who keep working for higher DXCC endorsements!

The call sign in each “ribbon” is a hyperlink to pages describing details of that operation.

Check it out on our website at:

<http://calendar.FairLawnARC.org>

## What Is It? – Answer To Last Month's Question

By: Fred Belghaus W2AAB



Image: eBay

Correct answers received from Alan WB2HJZ and Bill WA2WL. The 1B3/1G3 high voltage rectifier tubes were produced in large quantities from the late 1940s, all through the 1950s, and into the early 1960s. It's a half wave rectifier with a 1 Volt filament, having a peak inverse plate voltage of 26,000 Volts and peak plate current of 50 milliamps. Average plate current was only 0.5 milliamps. As a rectifier in RF circuits, its peak inverse plate voltage is 33,000 Volts, with a peak plate current of 35 milliamps, and an average plate current of 1.1 milliamps. [1]

Millions of them were used in a very common household item. They were used in television sets to supply voltage to the picture tube. If you ever had a 1950s or '60s TV set, you almost certainly had one inside.

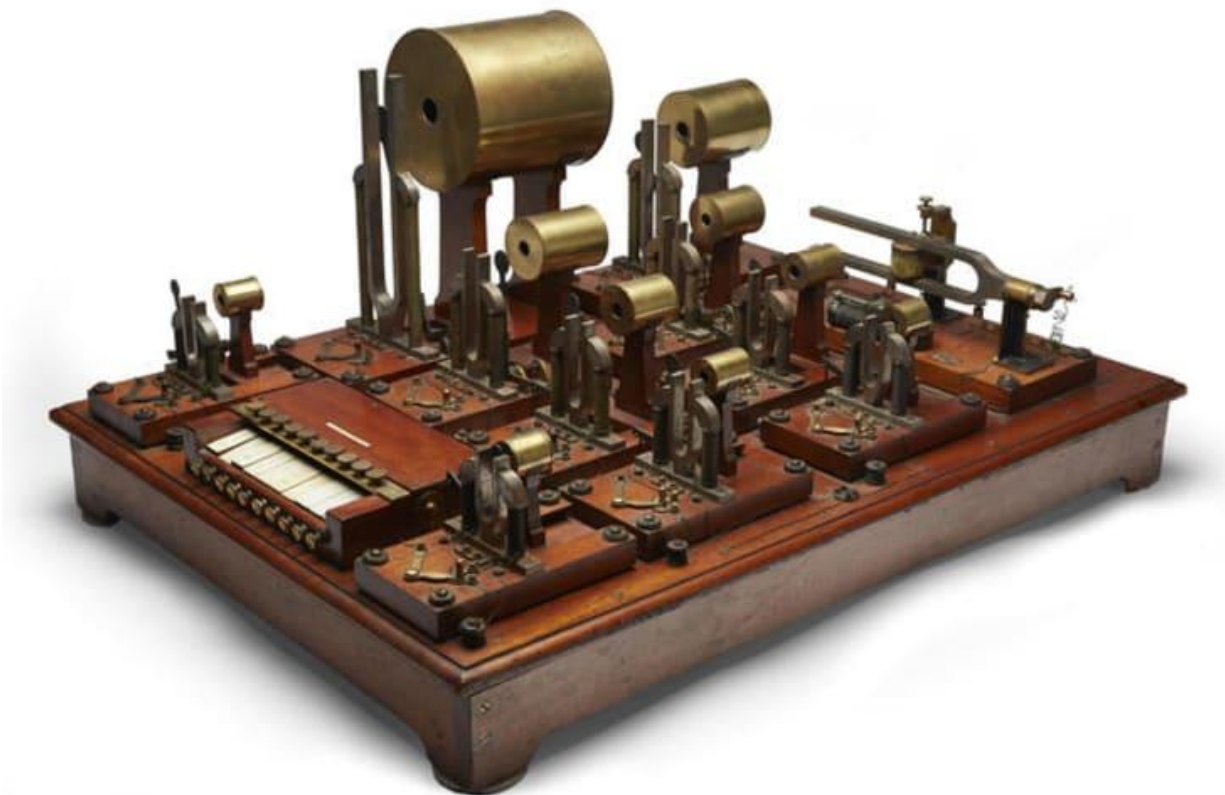
[1] For tube data see: <https://frank.pocnet.net/sheets/049/1/1G3GT.pdf>

73,

Fred, W2AAB

**What Is It? – January, 2022**

**By: Fred Belghaus W2AAB**



Now here's a challenging little mystery. What could it be?

An early telegraph instrument?

A primitive microwave oscillator?

A European spark transmitter?

Be observant and make your best guesses. Answer next month.

73,

Fred W2AAB



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## 2022 Dues Are Due

**Dues for 2022 will be accepted by the club starting on December 4<sup>th</sup> with the 2021 Annual Meeting. There are no changes to dues (\$25) for the upcoming year. Cutoff date is March 31, 2022.**

**Please make checks payable to "Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club" and send them to:**

**Bruce Kalogera NJ2BK  
163 Meadow Lane  
Secaucus, NJ 07094**

**Mail sent to the clubhouse will be delayed due to Covid. See website for other membership options.**

## FLARC To Present at Fair Lawn CERT Meeting On February 3rd

Led by Dave KD2MOB, the club will do a presentation to Fair Lawn CERT on Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM in the Municipal Building.

The purpose of the meeting is to educate CERT members on what amateur radio is and how the radios are used for public service communication. We will include an overview of traffic handling, the use of Echolink to supplement our local communications and repeater and, of course, a few reasons as to why they should join FLARC.

Many CERT organizations make a ham license a prerequisite for membership; we would like to encourage that in Fair Lawn as well.

## Contest Corner

– Van W2DLT



Howdy girls and guys – and a Happy New Year if I didn't get a chance to say it to you personally at the FLARC luncheon in December, or on the Near and Far Net, or on the landline. I hope Covid takes its leave and we can get back to normal – whatever normal is these days...

IMPORTANT: FLARC is the only club in our area with a large array of great, high-quality, modern equipment and antennas. We are back to having access to the club rooms, although masks are REQUIRED throughout the Rec. Center building.

Let's start using our club station whenever we can!

However, you MUST let me (or the Board) know if you would like to use our facility for any of the upcoming contests – some of which are mentioned below. We need to enlist people to open and close our club area so that you can come by and operate.

— Lots of interesting things going on all over the amateur radio spectrum and we're just getting into the "spring" Contest season – led off by the Annual **KIDS DAY** which was on January 1st. What a great opportunity to spark interest in youth. Hope you got to work a bunch of these wonderful young – up and coming hams.

— Then there's the January **ARRL VHF Contest** on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of January. ALL VHF/UHF and SHF frequencies will be active – hopefully some 6 meter activity as well. FLARC has a large contingent of VHF enthusiasts, so here's your chance to shine and work some new ones. Please list "Fair Lawn ARC" so the scores aggregate to the club. And be sure to report your activity to [www.3830scores.com](http://www.3830scores.com) so you can see how you did among others and set a standard to beat in the Fall or next winter ARRL VHF Contest.

Continued on next page.

## Contest Corner, continued.

— If you're into RTTY – there's the **ARRL RTTY Roundup** this Saturday and Sunday, January 8th and 9th. Lots of RTTY activity those days – even if you just want to listen and copy a bunch. And you don't even need an old clunker Teletype machine! Lots of software these days will receive and send "on glass."

— Into CW? OK, here 'ya go – the annual **North American QSO Party – CW** on January 15th and 16th. Good chance to practice and work some new ones.

— Not into CW **YET**- There's the **Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest** on January 18th. Work some new ones there.

— How about the **North American QSO Party – SSB** (NAQP) on the 22nd and 23rd of January? We always make a good showing for the club, and warm up a lot of people who haven't operated HF much **YET**. Let me know if you want to attend and we'll be sure to get the club opened up – we ALWAYS participate in the NAQP.

— Winter Field Day is January 29th and 30th and Noel W2MSA will be chairing that activity/contest. Details to follow, as to location and times. Pitch in – it's a fun "Contest" to get your feet wet (or frozen).

— Then we're off and running into February for the two of the BIG FOUR worldwide Contests – details next issue – or look up ARRL Contests (CW and SSB) AND check out the WA7BNM Contest Calendar on the web for ALL of the hundreds of contests going on every month...

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

**NOTE:** ARRL just announced that effective on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 power will be limited to 100 Watts in ALL ARRL sponsored HF contests and IARU contests (it had been 150 Watts).

That's it for this month – let me know if there's anything you'd like to see covered in future installments of the Contest Corner. Stay safe, have fun and 73 from Van W2DLT.

## FLARC SCORES WINTER FIELD DAY 2021

FLARC MEMBER SCORES TABULATED [by W2AAB]:

### \*1 TRANSMITTER – OUTSIDE\*

KA2YRA	4,543
K2KCC	12

### \*1 TRANSMITTER – INSIDE\*

W2JLH	1,634
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### \*1 TRANSMITTER – HOME\*

W2JC	3,732
W2AAB	3,684
W2MSA	592
N2AXX	480
N2CYY	132
KD2BKD	120
NP4H	84
N2SU	64
W2ABE	34

TOTAL FLARC POINTS = 15,111

Note:

W2DLT and K3KKH submitted scores, but they did not appear in the "club results" section, so perhaps these two members did not specify their membership in FLARC, or they just didn't send in a score.



Note: M/M means Multi-op, Multi-band





Contest Corner Bonus

# AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS



Start Day → 1 → End Day 3  
Start Time (UTC) → 0000Z → End Time (UTC) 2359Z  
Contest Name  
← Major Contest Of Weekend

Multimode CW Digital  
Off-The-Air SSB VHF/UHF



## **Straight Key Night and Bug Day: A sumptuous dinner with dessert**

**By: Fred Belghaus, W2AAB**

Every New Year's Day, the A.R.R.L. sponsors an event known as "SKN" (Straight Key Night) that runs for 24 hours beginning at 0000 UTC (7 PM local) until 2359 UTC (6:59 pm) on the first full day of the New Year. This activity isn't a contest, just an opportunity to change the pace of CW operating by putting aside our electronic keyers and replacing them, at least for one day, by that most basic of CW tools, the straight key. The idea isn't to rack up big scores. It's just to slow things down, relax, and enjoy a chat with another operator using that most basic CW tool.

Often, participants also fire up their vintage transmitters and receivers, and put them to work once again, perhaps after many years, just for fun, or to re-live their earlier days in ham radio.

But in recent years, partially concurrent with Straight Key Night, the First Class CW Operator's Club (F.O.C.) sponsors a CW activity of its own. They call it Bug Day. Bug Day also takes us back in time – before electronic keyers, keyboards, and computer software were used to send code. The object is the same as for the SKN: only using a semi-automatic "bug" key, instead of a straight key.

This year, I decided to combine both of these events into a single effort, and see how I might do using a bug again after being a long-time keyer operator. I only operated 40 meters, and here are my results.

First of all, sending with a bug is different from sending with a straight key and a keyer. The "dits" are sent mechanically by proper activation of the "dit" side of the bug's finger piece, by means of a vibrating reed driven by a weight. The number of "dits" that can be sent depends upon how well the key settings are adjusted, and this is too complicated to explain fully here. But the "dahs" must be individually formed by the operator pressing and holding the "dah" side finger piece, just long enough to send one "dah" at a time, sending as many as are required for each character. No, not at all like a keyer!

Bugs can be adjusted to cover a range of speeds from about 7 WPM to more than 50 WPM, all depending on the settings. Most bug operators seem to prefer a speed somewhere between 15 and 30 WPM.

I started out with the SKN. My key was made by J.H. Bunnell, around 1920, and used on medium power spark transmitters.



J.H. Bunnell spark key

Image: <http://www.telegraphkeys.com/pages/spark/usspark.html>

Note that there is no “circuit closing switch” as seen on landline telegraph keys. The small clip on the left is for plugging in a bug by means of a “wedge” on the end of a cable.

My first contact was with FLARC member Tom N2AXX. Tom was having some trouble with the VFO in his Yaesu FT-901, so he switched rigs to make the contact. He was using a Vibroplex iambic paddle with a keyer, not a straight key, but that didn’t matter to me. It was still a nice contact, and one I appreciated.

Next, I hooked up with KØJVX, John in Olathe, Kansas. John was running only 20 Watts, but he had a solid 589 signal with only a dipole antenna. He was using a Kent straight key, made in England. You can see a picture of the Kent key here:

<https://www.kent-engineers.com/KT1info.htm>

Then I tuned the band, but heard only one or two stations using straight keys, deep in conversational mode with other stations. It was then that I decided to go into my display case and pull out a couple of bugs, to try my hand at some bug sending.

Before I could do that, though, I knew from experience that I’d have to clean the contacts on the bugs, which hadn’t been exercised in a long time. The first bug I chose was a World War II surplus J-36 made by Lionel Corp., the same company famous for its toy train sets, but that also had government contracts during the war to manufacture keys. Their other most famous product used by hams was the ubiquitous J-38 straight key.

I started by dusting off the J-36 and cleaning the contact sets using a dollar bill — an old timer’s trick that usually worked well enough, by providing a mildly abrasive surface without damaging the key contacts. I tested it by putting the rig in the SSB position and listening to the sidetone. Hmm... a little scratchy. So then I used a white envelope and tried again, tightening the “dit” and “dah” contacts just enough to allow wiping them with the envelope. This time, results were even better. After re-adjusting the spacing on the “dit” and “dah” sides, I tried it out using the sidetone, and it sounded better.

I hadn’t used a bug at my home station in at least 30 years, but just a little practice soon brought me back into the fold. I went back to the CW band and listened to W1GF, Greg near Portland, Maine, just finishing a QSO. I called and he came right back with 599 signals both ways. This would end up being one of two of the most interesting QSOs I’d had in many years.

Greg is formerly WB2POH, first licensed in 1963 on Long Island. As we chatted, I looked up his call on qrz.com and discovered that his last name is Finch. He is the son of the late “Dee” Finch, K2FX (formerly W2SJH), the once very famous half of the team “Klavan and Finch,” a pair of comedy DeeJays on WNEW, 1130 AM back in the 1950s and ‘60s. I was well familiar with “Dee” and his program, as well as hearing him many times on 40 meters sending excellent CW at up to 35 or 40 WPM. I had never worked his dad, but always wished I did. I remembered him making a QSO, and then going QRT before I could work him. I never would have thought that his son had followed in his ham radio footsteps, and that I’d have the chance to work him, and reminisce.

Another unusual thing about the QSO was that the call W1GF was someone I had worked years before. His name was Fred Brown, and he lived in Massachusetts. Fred was another good CW operator, always active on 40 meters in the early 1960s. For the past month or so, the remains of his QSL collection have been offered for sale on eBay.

As we chatted awhile, I told Greg of my recollections of those days, and my own connections with broadcasting, having spent seven years behind the mike at several metropolitan AM stations as a reporter, editor, newsman, and News Director. When we finally signed off, I was in a very pleasant state of mind, truly glad that I had gotten the “bug” for bug sending again.

My next QSO was also uniquely satisfying. I moved up the band a bit, and after checking for a clear frequency, called “CQ SKN/Bug Day” and I was immediately answered by W1HNJ, Ed on Cape Cod. The call W1HNJ belongs to a club station operated as a memorial to the S.S. Hope, whose ship call letters were WHNJ.

The S.S. Hope was originally a hospital ship during World War II named U.S.S. Consolation. It later became the ship operated by Project H.O.P.E. (Health Opportunities for People Everywhere) founded in 1958 as a humanitarian NGO that operated over much of the Third World, especially in Asia and Latin America, until 1974 - when Project H.O.P.E. switched its emphasis to land-based operations. [1], [2]

The station W1HNJ is located at the WCC (Chatham Radio) Museum in North Chatham, Massachusetts – operated to preserve the history of WCC, the coast station operated for many years by the RCA Radiomarine Company. [3]

The transmitter used was one of the original Mackay Marine HF transmitters used on the S.S. Hope, with an 813 final amplifier stage, but with a DDS VFO in place of the original Master Oscillator. My guess is that the power level was several hundred Watts output. The receiver used was an Icom R-8500. The key used at W1HNJ was a J-36 bug. I first worked W1HNJ with my own J-36 bug, and then I switched to the Bunnell spark key. It was another nice contact, and one with considerable historic significance.

While working W1HNJ, the operator told me that several of the original WCC operators were activating the WCC club call, WA1WCC, which I had worked several years before. To see one of the Mackay Marine transmitters, and very probably the one I worked, go to the following link and scroll down the page to the near bottom. The transmitter units are at top left and right in the photo:

<https://www.wccara.com/ss-hope>

Finally, I thought I’d activate another bug from my collection. This one is a Vibroplex “Blue Racer,” but unlike any I have seen anywhere else.



Vibroplex “Blue Racer”

Image: [http://www.vibroplex.com/contents/en-us/p46\\_Blue\\_Racer\\_Standard.html](http://www.vibroplex.com/contents/en-us/p46_Blue_Racer_Standard.html)

My “Blue Racer” is similar to the above, but the base is deposited gold paint, quite robust, and the finger pieces are ivory, not red plastic. There is no red “jewel” only a single shaft with knurled adjustment to regulate the pressure on the pivot. I suspect that it was a special order item, and possibly unique.



I quickly cleaned the contacts as best I could, and called another “CQ SKN/Bug Day” and was quickly answered by Jim W1OBJ in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts. We had another fine QSO. He was running an Icom 756 Pro 3 at 100 Watts to a rotary dipole at 60 feet. Jim is 81 years old, and was originally licensed in 1955 as a Novice with the call WN1OBJ. Over the years, he had first requested the vanity call of AF1Q, but he soon tired of it and got his earlier call of W1OBJ back. I didn’t write down the type of key he was using, but it must have been some kind of bug, because we conversed at nearly 30 WPM.

All told, I only made five contacts, but they were truly enjoyable and noteworthy.

Although I prefer electronic keying for either chasing DX or contesting, there’s a lot to be said for the old fashioned and nearly lost art of rag chewing — especially on CW with an old straight key or bug. These are contacts you won’t forget, either, even after many years.

I think I’ll try some more of this. But first, I’ll have to buy a can of Deoxit to clean my old bugs so they sound as sweet and lovely as they did when they left the factory. More than anything, ham radio should be fun. When it’s about anything else, it’s time to try something else. So...enjoy!

73,

Fred W2AAB

#### NOTES:

[1] Wikipedia article: “S.S. Hope,” at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS\\_Hope](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Hope)

[2] Wikipedia article: “Project HOPE,” at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project\\_HOPE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_HOPE)

[3] “WCC Amateur Radio Association – WA1WCC W1WIM W1HNJ,” at: <https://www.wccara.com/>

#### ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

American Spark Keys: <http://www.telegraphkeys.com/pages/spark/usspark.html>

Vibroplex website: <http://www.vibroplex.com/>



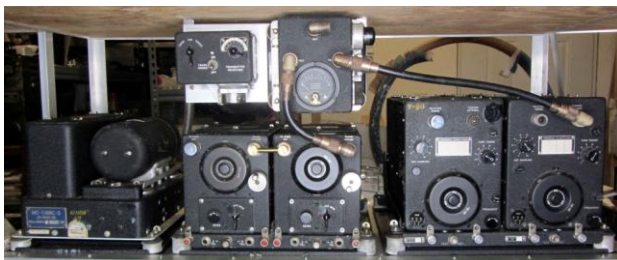
## How Ham Radio Changed My Life

When the Korean War broke out, I realized I had to do my patriotic duty, so I joined the Naval Reserve. I really didn't want to go into the army. After basic training in Newport Rhode Island, I spent a short time on a Destroyer. While serving on the Destroyer the Bureau of Personnel (BurPers) sent a message "to all Personnel." I couldn't believe what it said. It was my pass to better life in the Navy.

They were looking for Amateur Radio personal (Hams) who would like to ship over to Naval Air as a Station Keeper. What could be better? Needless to say, I immediately raised my hand in a manner of speaking.

They assigned me to a Naval Air Reserve training squadron at the Naval Air Reserve training Station at Lakehurst NJ. And what was my job, to maintain the radio equipment that was aboard the Blimps being flown by several of the reserve squadron who came up for training each weekend.

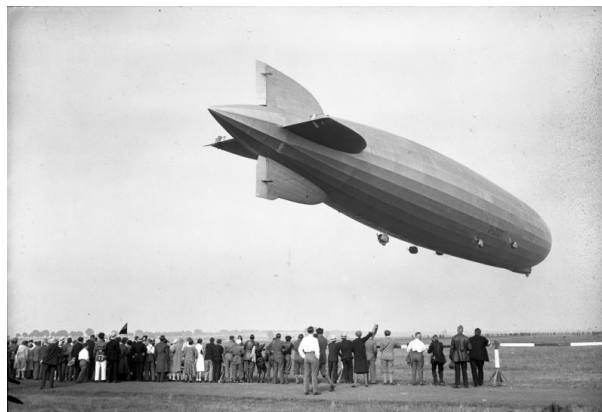
There were three of these squadrons who in the summer trained for a whole week. At that time the blimps were carrying ARC 5 receivers and transmitters also ART-13 transmitters. The final was an 813. What more could a Ham want.



<https://aafradio.org/flightdeck/arc5-4.jpg>

I also qualified as an air crewman and flew in the blimps as part of the air crew. Besides maintaining the communication equipment aboard the blimps I also maintained and operated the Airborne Radar equipment (APS-33) unit. I have to admit I made a mistake using the radar. When I worked on the RADAR in the shop we would turn on a switch that would stabilize the radar antenna in one position. When I was flying I forgot to turn off that switch so while aloft the radar antenna would not sweep the ocean below us.

I reported to the pilot flying that the equipment was inoperative. His remark was that it never worked right. I didn't say anything to that remark, but it was my fault.



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/48/a0/d7/48a0d729773dd5a895ece3ff730cf99d.jpg>

Another interesting occurrence was that, as the radio operator, I had to send out a position report every hour. I did this using CW.

The pilot gave me our position in Lat Long terms. The ship had a hand key that you could use. I was different and brought along my Bug. I sent our position using the bug. When we got back to Lakehurst, some of the other guys kidded me saying: "We didn't know you went to Alaska."



<https://www.radioblvd.com/ART-13/ART-13book1.jpg>

And that is how having an Amateur Radio License helped me during the war. One other comment – the food in the Navy was good.

Stan KC2K

Note: The photos were added by your newsletter publisher and when Stan saw the airship picture he responded with this –

"The photo you have of the airship is a dirigible, not a blimp. I doubt anybody else would realize it. The difference is a blimp has no internal structure. Its shape is held by the gas pressure that is internal. A ridge airship, as in the photo, keeps its shape by a ridge structure built into the gas bag. The Navy hasn't used that structure for years – since after the navy's airship Shenandoah<sup>1</sup> went down. The Navy doesn't fly blimps anymore, since the retirement of Admiral Rosenthal. He was considered the father of the Blimp fleet. All the old Blimps were deflated, wrapped up and stored in the rafters of the blimp hangars at Lakehurst. As far as I know, they still may be there."

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ohiomagazine.com/ohio-life/article/the-crash-of-the-uss-shenandoah>



## FLARC PortableOps SIG

PortableOps@FairLawnARC.groups.io

This is a Special Interest Group (SIG) for members interested in portable ham radio operation such as POTA, SOTA, IOTA, LOTA, etc.

The purpose of this SIG is to get outdoors and practice our operating skills from different places. We can share outing experiences, tips and work on our operating skills.

Here are some stats that Brian N2BTD put together from 2021, on behalf of the FLARC Portable Operators SIG.

2021 was an incredible year for members of the FLARC Portable Operators SIG and their involvement with the Parks On The Air program. FLARC Members were responsible for 44,686 QSOs during 1,191 different activations throughout 2021. (An "activation" is when a ham operator goes to a qualified park and provides on-the-air QSOs with other hams, who are known as "hunters.")

Steve KA2YRA led the FLARC members for 2021 with 550 activations (making him #5 worldwide!) from 247 unique parks (#9 worldwide) with a total of 12,588 QSO's (#15 worldwide).

James KB2FMH had 198 activations from 59 unique parks with a total of 12,859 QSO's (#14 worldwide).

Brian N2BTD had 274 activations (#23 worldwide) from 34 unique parks with a total of 10,765 QSO's (#27 worldwide). Besides being an activator, Brian was also very active as a Hunter – working 2,888 unique parks (#15 worldwide) with a total of 7,631 QSO's (#9 worldwide) for the year.

-- Noel Pagan W2MSA

## Report from Portable Ops SIG, cont'd

Brian N2BTD recently wrote:

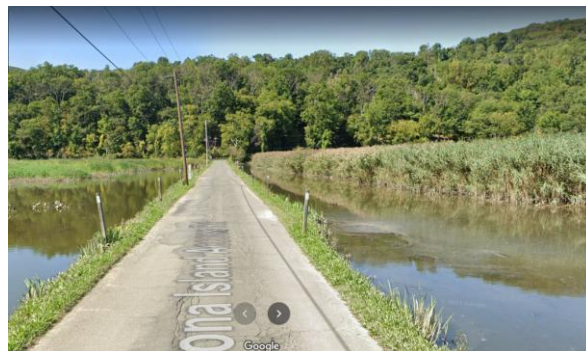
I have personally been enjoying POTA as a Hunter since March of 2021 when I upgraded to my General and as an Activator since April. One of the first things I did when I upgraded my license was join the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club after learning of their great Portable Operators Group. FLARC Members also participated in Island & Lighthouse events throughout the year. We are very proud of our 2021 accomplishments and are looking to expand even more in 2022.



At the end of his "activation" Brian N2BTD posted: What an activation at Iona Island, 160 logged, new record !

But right after that, he posted this photo with the comment: I may have a small problem leaving this island -- Don't know if I should chance it, no clue how deep it is in the middle.

Here is what Google Maps says the road looked like when Brian first arrived at Iona Island –



Our POTAppeeps are really dedicated folks !!



## Portable Ops ... My Personal Panacea for the Pandemic

Steve Rosman KA2YRA



Thanks to Noel W2MSA for heading up the very popular and very active FLARC Portable Ops SIG. The past two years have been especially great to get outside and play radio. I should check my mileage and tolls. I think I may have equaled or exceeded the driving I did when I was on the road before retiring at the beginning of 2020!.

POTA (**P**arks **O**n **T**he **A**ir) has clearly been the most popular program. There are many others including WWFF (Worldwide Flora and Fauna) which was the predecessor of POTA, SOTA (Summits on the Air), IOTA (Islands on the Air) and related island-related groups, BOTA (Beaches on the Air), even WMPOTA (Walmart Parking Lots on the Air - seriously), and more. See the resource list at the end for links for more info.

I got a late start in POTA in 2020, though I was able to make some good progress. Overall I was fortunate to activate 255 unique parks, 598 activations (10+ QSOs) out of 677 attempts, 67 late shift activations, and 1562 Park-to-Park activations, along with earning 6 “Kilo” Awards (1000+ activations). Almost all of my activity has been POTA since my home station is not ham friendly, and the majority has been on SSB. My approximately 14,000 POTA QSOs are about 92% of my 15,000+ total QSOs logged since 2016. Most of the earlier ones were digital (FT4/8, PSK31, RTTY, etc) from home.

The best part, really, is the friendships that developed, either in person or over the air. We are fortunate to have such a great local group, and to be part of a growing movement. As an activator (primarily), my gratitude to the hunters and coordinators, and to all the folks who make POTA work. I was fortunate to achieve and exceed several goals in 2021, though am humbled by some of the all-time champions. My inspiration and model is Joe Everhart N2CX (SK) who gave a presentation on POTA to FLARC a few years ago. His dedication, humility, expertise, and sense of family and fun are great lessons to us all. I also have to thank Noel W2MSA, up there on Mount Pagan in Hasbrouck Heights (satellite hotspot!) for his more recent inspiration.

I got started in portable ops late in 2016 during NPOTA (ARRL's **N**ational **P**arks **O**n **T**he **A**ir program) which celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. National Park system. I got started in POTA late in 2021, though I was able to make some good progress.

When I got started late in 2016, after (too) many years of inactivity, I drove down to HRO (Ham Radio Outlet) in Delaware on Labor Day weekend to purchase a Yaesu FT-817ND. That radio is self-contained with battery and UHF/VHF, and allowed me to get portable right away. QRP was a challenge, though I liked how it helped me hone my skills.

Here is a recap of results from SIG members as activators (they submit logs from operation in the field) and hunters (they contact activators; activators can be hunters when they contact other activators). Please note these are all-time stats as of 1/8/2022. Stats by year can be found on the pota.app website. Apologies to anyone I may have omitted. If you look at the annual stats, you will see that in most cases the bulk of activity has occurred in 2021. The momentum is continuing strong as we begin 2022.

## FLARC Portable Ops SIG POTA stats - all time - thru 2022-01-08

### Activators - All Time

Name	Callsign	Activations	Parks	Total QSOs	Total CW	Total Data	Total Phone
Brian Duddy	<a href="#">N2BTD</a>	289	34	11849	0	0	11849
Harold Broomfield	<a href="#">KC2BPP</a>	45	10	1256	178	87	991
James Gallo	<a href="#">KB2FMH</a>	247	77	14372	0	0	14372
Ken Cheng	<a href="#">W2SCT</a>	45	25	2637	996	1	1640
Kevin Connell	<a href="#">K2KCC</a>	4	3	113	0	0	113
Mike	<a href="#">KD2SXD</a>	38	8	2999	0	3	2996
Noel Pagan	<a href="#">W2MSA</a>	43	31	1526	6	0	1520
Nomar Vizcarrando	<a href="#">NP4H</a>	13	10	534	216	0	318
Steve Holly	<a href="#">WI2W</a>	26	19	630	120	0	510
Steve Rosman	<a href="#">KA2YRA</a>	600	255	13741	0	1120	12621

### Hunters - All Time

Name	Callsign		Parks	Total QSOs	Total CW	Total Data	Total Phone
Brian Duddy	<a href="#">N2BTD</a>		2940	7863	0	0	7863
Ed Efchak	<a href="#">WX2R</a>		37	41	5	30	6
Fred Belghaus	<a href="#">W2AAB</a>		607	730	240	0	490
Harold Broomfield	<a href="#">KC2BPP</a>		1518	3063	604	4	2455
James Gallo	<a href="#">KB2FMH</a>		933	1599	0	0	1599
Jim Cooper	<a href="#">W2JC</a>		245	315	95	207	13
Jim Jalil	<a href="#">W2KNG</a>		112	147	6	97	44
Ken Cheng	<a href="#">W2SCT</a>		365	465	135	26	304
Kevin Connell	<a href="#">K2KCC</a>		111	137	0	0	137
Mike	<a href="#">KD2SXD</a>		1460	2701	37	27	2637
Noel Pagan	<a href="#">W2MSA</a>		881	1396	161	1	1234
Nomar Vizcarrando	<a href="#">NP4H</a>		60	71	19	0	52
Steve Holly	<a href="#">WI2W</a>		112	165	52	3	110
Steve Rosman	<a href="#">KA2YRA</a>		988	1744	1	72	1671

I didn't really get serious (obsessed?) until Noel's presentation to FLARC in early 2021. And a very special thanks to the tireless efforts of our 2-land coordinators, Buddy W3BS and now James KB2FMH, who have worked tirelessly to get our logs into the POTA system. I have learned so much, and developed great friendships and respect, with each of these gentlemen.

There were so many highlights (and lowlights) during the year, including getting stuck in the snow twice at the same park! Fortunately, a different tow truck driver came each time to winch me out. There were roads (more like goat trails) that I should not have driven on thru various Game Lands and Wildlife Maintenance Areas. Single lane roads, deep ruts, muddy, icy, and worse! Good thing there was no oncoming traffic, and that I did not get stuck. I gained a new respect for signs advising "no winter maintenance."

Being way outside of cell phone coverage, I suppose I could have called for help to a ham in California or Europe! It's a strong reminder that the all wheel drive in my SUV is NOT off-road 4-wheel drive!



The FLARC Portable Ops SIG has been a great resource and group of friends. Here we are suited up for a festive portable operation.



Awesome activities (don't call them events ;- ) including Rockland Lake, Tallman Mountain, Liberty



State Park, Stony Point Lighthouse, and more were outstanding occasions to learn and share, and most importantly, eat together! Looking forward to more and more of these in the new year.

Learned a lot too about technology, batteries, and operating practices. Mapping is a key critical component to finding parks and places to operate within. Biggest lesson is that preparation and practice makes a world of difference. It's more fun to play than practice, though I've gone to parks that turned out to be closed that day, or on an island accessible only by boat (I do not have a boat ;-), or totally hidden by snow or other obstacles.



There is lots of forensics involved in identifying park borders. The <https://sartopo.com/> tool and the various state and federal mapping sites are a great help here.

As they say in real estate ... location, location, location. That's especially important in portable ops for finding strategic sites preferably with easy access, good elevation, and low RF noise floor. The other, and maybe the most important factor, is antenna, antenna, antenna. This is truly the area where we can best improvise and improve.

Over the years I have tried a wide variety of antennas. My typical choice is a "hamstick" mounted on the hatch of the car. In nice weather I will keep the hatch open and operate out of the back of the SUV. This seems to give a larger ground surface. Hamsticks are really quick to deploy, though they are single frequency. I have used two at a time, of the same frequency, in a dipole configuration with very good results.

I have also used the Yaesu ATAS-100 screwdriver antenna, which auto-tunes from the FT-817D. This offers frequency agility within the 7-28 MHz range, though it needs a really good ground to work well.

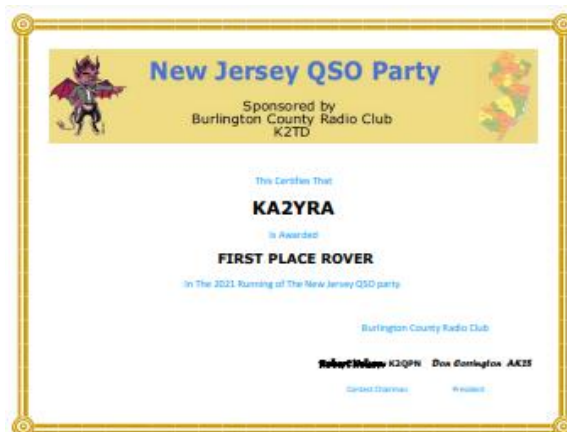
Others I have tried, and will continue to optimize, are random-length end-fed and end fed half waves. One of my favorite techniques I learned from Joe Everhart is to spiral wrap the antenna around a 20+ foot fiberglass or PVC pole.

Having a trailer hitch and a "drive-on" base provide easy mounts for masts. Tree branches are always good for hoisting a wire as high as I can toss a weight. Using a "potato gun" is on the list of projects.

I'm a big fan of 2-fer's, 3-fer's and more-fer's. These are sites that combine multiple entities, and help increase your productivity. There are many in our area, including the Appalachian Trail K-4556 and W3R K-4582 passing thru Harriman K-2069 and Bear Mountain K-2010 State Parks. Check out <https://w3r-us.org/trail-map/> and National Park Service "NPS Appalachian Trail Interactive Map" for details.

New Jersey features the NJ Coastal Trail K-6544 and Pinelands K-6609 <https://www.nj.gov/pinelands/reserve/> for a bunch of great multi-park locations. And the Gateway NRA [National Recreation Area] K-0680 <https://www.nps.gov/gate/planyourvisit/maps.htm> includes a number of great sites along the water in Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island, and New Jersey.

Combining activities leverages your results. I typically operate as a rover in the ARRL UHF/VHF contests (from POTA sites), and recently earned 1st place as a rover in the NJ QSO Party after operating from several POTA sites – including the Thomas Edison NHS, Liberty State Park, and Ramapo Mountain SP.



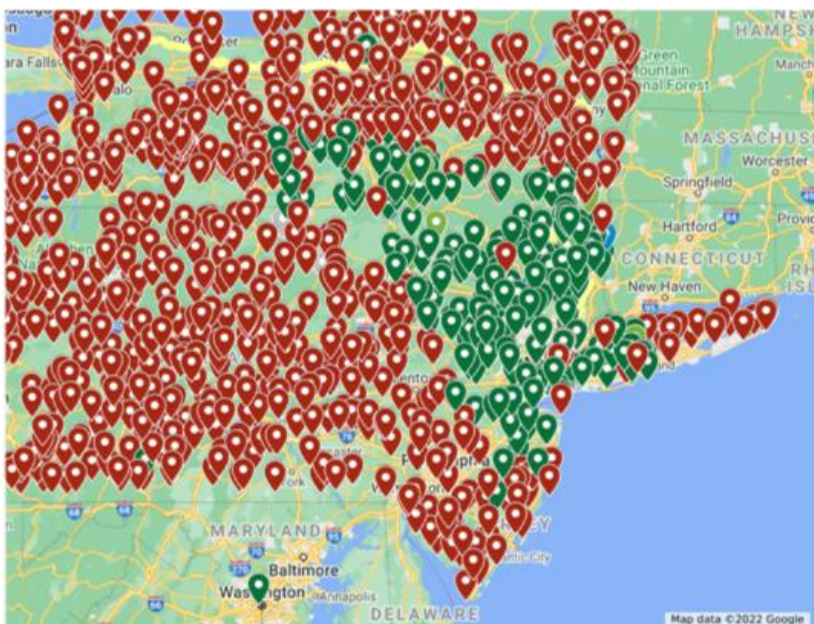
Related activities include modes such as satellite, SSTV, APRS, and others. The recent ISS SSTV passes were even better when captured from the clear high elevation at many of the parks in the area.

Safety and creature comfort are other important factors. Bio-breaks, food and drinks, lighting, and situational awareness are critical, especially when alone in isolated areas. There have been occasions when I left a site because I did not feel safe. These were both in urban and rural locations. Special caution is required in hunting areas during hunting season. ➔

My goals for 2022 include adding to my "unique parks" count. There are plenty still within a 2-hour radius way out on eastern Long Island, southern New Jersey, upstate New York and Pennsylvania (especially around my son's house in Binghamton), and New England.



Then there's a whole country out there, and Canada too! Many of the next trips will include overnight stays. I mapped my progress and opportunities as a visual planning aid. Please note that Connecticut is missing from this view. Green are parks I have activated; red are those awaiting my visit!



I am already working on adding to my count of Kilo's and P2P's.

And the elusive POTA WAS (Worked All States) is within reach. At this time, I just need "the easy ones," AK, HI, and MT, to complete this ;-). I've had QSOs with those states from POTA sites, but for that award the ops at the other end also need to be in POTA sites.

Overall I have been fortunate to activate 255 unique parks, 598 activations (10+) out of 677 attempts, 67 late shift activations, and 1562 Park-to-Park activations, along with earning 6 Kilo's (1000+ activations). Almost all of my activity has been POTA since my home station is not ham friendly, and the majority has been SSB. My approximately 14,000 POTA QSO's are about 92% of my 15,000+ total QSO's logged since 2016. Most of the earlier ones were digital (FT4/8, PSK31, RTTY, etc) from home.

High on my list now is improving my operating skills and equipment, especially adding CW to my arsenal, and optimizing antennas and gear. Getting out of the car, so it is "Parks" and not "Parking Lots" on the Air, is a priority — as well as adding SOTA and IOTA operation.

There's a world of opportunity out there, outdoors, and a great group of people to enjoy it with. Thanks to all the activators, hunters, POTA volunteers, and especially the Portable Ops SIG for a great year so far, with even better things to come.

I'm glad to answer any question, and join you on portable excursions — properly masked and distanced of course. And I really appreciate feedback. I'm learning every day!

Best wishes and 73.

Steve KA2YRA

### Some links to additional resources and information (glad to hear from you with more)

- [pota.app](https://pota.app) current website
- [Parksontheair.com](https://Parksontheair.com) legacy website
- <https://wwff.co> World Wide Flora & Fauna program
- <https://www.beachesontheair.com/>
- <https://www.wlota.com/> World Lighthouses on the Air
- <https://www.iota-world.org/> Islands On The Air
- <https://www.sota.org.uk/> Summits on the Air

### Mapping tools

- <https://w3r-us.org/trail-map/> Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Trail (POTA K-4582)
- <https://empiretrail.ny.gov/> NYS Empire State Trail (POTA K-8098)
- [https://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid\\_square.php](https://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php) grid square locator
- <https://nps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6298c848ba2a490588b7f6d25453e4e0> Appalachian Trail interactive (POTA K-4556)
- <https://sartopo.com/map.html#ll=41.12356,-73.91036&z=18&b=imagery&o=r&n=0.3&a=c%2Cmba> check out Hook Mountain State Park, very detailed
- <https://www.nps.gov/gate/planyourvisit/maps.htm> check out all the excellent National Park Service locations
- <https://parks.ny.gov/> NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
- <https://www.dec.ny.gov/> NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation
- <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/parkindex.html> NJ Parks, Forests, Recreation Areas and Marinas by Location



## Theoretics Demystified

I have a Boston Acoustics Solo radio and the sound it puts out is fantastic! It got me to thinking about how awesome it is that a single speaker can put out a full range of sound. The fact that one device can reproduce a myriad of frequencies all at the same time is amazing.

This led me to take a look at the physics of sound. Take a violin string for example, when you pluck it, it vibrates at its resonant frequency [sounds familiar does it not?] Well anyway this produces alternating compression and rarefactions [expansions] which correspond to the plus and minuses of the familiar sine wave we deal with in electronics.

Due to the elasticity of air, the sound waves move out in all directions. If it were possible to measure the air pressure in those instantaneous and microscopic amounts, you would find those increases and decreases of air pressure that correspond to the frequency of the sound emitted by a device or other mechanical action. When sound waves hit an object they are bounced off of that object and if the object is a parabolic reflector, they are concentrated to one specific area, say a microphone.

This also applies to any kind of wave, but is only practical on short radio waves or audible sound waves.

Now we have a few terms regarding sound to explain. The first is loudness and that is basically the level of loudness is related to the difference between the maximum compression of the air and the rarefaction and [expansion of the air between the compressions]. Think of waves in a pool when someone throws a ball into it. A large ball makes big waves and a smaller one makes smaller waves.

Next is frequency or, as it is commonly referred to as pitch when dealing with sound. What makes this complicated is that rarely do we have a single tone to deal with or hear. This leads to the fact that multiple tones combine and as in an instrument in a band where the design makes use of this fact to produce pleasing tones hence the quality of sound. Getting back to the loudspeaker,

## Theoretics Demystified, continued

it is simply amazing and delightful that a simple vibrating speaker can produce multiple sounds all at once. Getting back to the Solo, radio the design is meticulous and very complicated. Unfortunately, they have been out of production for about a dozen years. This radio exemplifies that the physics of sound is indeed very complicated and has progressed to a remarkable level where a small player can produce room filling sound that was only possible with closet sized speaker many years ago.

Another example is the ear buds that many of us use on a daily basis. This we all take for granted but enjoy.

This leads to the evolution of sound recording devices which started with the foil on drum recorder player in France in the mid 1800s and was developed by Edison into the cylinder phonograph [graphophone] and later by others into the disc records that still endure to this day, and the players needed no power to operate!

Later on there were wire recorders then tape recorder including reel to reel, then 8 track players and finally cassette player/recorders [which are enjoying a resurgence in popularity along with disc records]. Then came CD player/recorders and now solid state memory recording of sound and video.

Interestingly the winner for longevity is disc records, as tape deteriorates and one bad cell on solid state memory can wipe out the whole thing and you never know when it may happen!

However tech marches on, remember when Mr. Spock put in the little chip that was supposed to be the record to be viewed? So the next time you get on the air think about all of the tech and the basics of sound when you hear that distant voice on the speaker.

Fred Wawra W2ABE, 73.





For FLARC membership info and renewal/application form please visit:

[membership.FairLawnARC.org](http://membership.FairLawnARC.org)

## FLARC Dues, new and renewal, (and even donations!) can now be made on-line ...

[Please note that this is a temporary improvement while Dave KD2JIP works on a real, full-fledged web page for filling out the membership/renewal form and submitting that and payment on-line.]

Payments can be made using either PayPal or Zelle.

Here's how –

### Using PayPal —

Log into your PayPal account at

<https://www.paypal.com>

At top right, select "My PayPal"

Under Quick links, select "Send Money"

In the window showing  
Name, email or mobile number  
enter this email address:

[1947xyzabc1947@gmail.com](mailto:1947xyzabc1947@gmail.com)

Click on [ Next ]

Enter \$ amount you are sending, & in "add a note" area type in your CALL SIGN and which year (2020 or 2021) the dues are for, & any other explanation.

Click on [ Continue ]

Click on the [ Change ] button

Click on "Sending to a friend" link

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN —>



Sending to a friend

No fee to use bank or balance to send to friends and family in the U.S.

You will see a summary of your transaction; if no changes are required, click on

[ Send Payment Now ]

to complete your transaction.

\$

### Using Zelle —

If you are using Zelle through your bank account, just send your dues to the following number: 201-240-9317

Don't forget to add in the note/message section your callsign and that it is for your 2020 and/or 2021 dues.

**OR** you can still use a good ol' Check or Money Order payable to FLARC - always put your Call Sign and "dues for 2020" (or 2021) on the check. MAIL TO:

**Bruce Kalogera, NJ2BS**  
163 Meadow Lane  
Secaucus, NJ 07094



## **Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club**

*Fair Lawn Recreation and Community Center  
10-10 20th Street  
Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410*

### **MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ PO Box \_\_\_\_\_ Ste./Apt # \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Roster Published Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Unpublished Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Roster Published EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member ? RACES Member ? ARES Member ? CERT ? VE ?

Additional Family Members (In same household) --

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Introductory and Student Membership \$ 20 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Students under the age of 18 eligible for student membership)  
(Introductory membership open to new members  
or not a member in last 7 yrs)

Associate Membership \* (No Fee)

\* Open to Fair Lawn Residents Only. No voting rights or other privileges.

Renewal of Current Membership \$ 25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Three Year Renewal Incentive \$ 65 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Single memberships only, family memberships excluded)

Additional Family Members # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$ 5 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Life Membership \$ 625 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Life Membership (65 yrs. of age or over) \$ 250 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment Fund Donation, above regular membership dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total submitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby acknowledge the By laws and rules and regulations of the club and will abide by them as amended

Please Note: Memberships are NOT Pro-Rated. Membership is from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> of any given year unless documented otherwise.

Please make your dues check payable to the "Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club" and remit to the following address:

### **Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club**

**Bruce Kalogera NJ2BK**

**163 Meadow Lane**

**Secaucus, NJ 07094**

Mail sent to the clubhouse will be delayed due to  
Covid. See website for other membership options.



## January 2022

### FLARC Business Meeting

Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club  
Secretary's Minutes Prepared by David KD2MOB  
General Meeting of January 7, 2022

The Meeting was called to order by Nomar NP4H, at the Fair Lawn Recreation Center and via Zoom video teleconference at 7:32 PM and concluded at 8:26 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 7:33 PM

David KD2MOB facilitated a roll call and a quorum was established.

President -	Nomar Vizcarrando	NP4H
V. President -	David Corsello	KD2JIP
Treasurer -	Bruce Kalogera	NJ2BK
Secretary -	David Gotlib	KD2MOB
Trustees (3) -	Ed Efchak	WX2R
	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN

#### Opening remarks by Nomar NP4H.

David KD2MOB stated the Annual Meeting Minutes were published in the December 2021 Resonator  
Motion to accept the Minutes - Don K2PD, Seconded by Dave KD2JIP

#### Treasurer Report by Bruce NJ2BK

Motion to accept the Treasurer Report as presented - Mitch KD2IIU, Seconded by Dave N2AAM

Nomar NP4H asked if there were any visitors at the meeting. No visitors at the FLARC or on Zoom.

#### Committee Reports

**Technical Committee** - Jim W2JC - Jim reported that he has a number of technical suggestions which will be presented to the Board for review.

**Publicity Committee** - Ed WX2R -

- Thanked members for completing the FLARC Annual Survey. The number of responses this year is slightly larger than last year, but the percentage of members responding is less because of the much larger membership this year. Ed WX2R reminded everyone to complete the Annual Survey. The closing date is coming up soon and a presentation will be coming up in a future General Meeting.

- Upcoming "Kawfee Tawks" - Fri, January 21st at 7:30 PM - Bob Antoniuk N2SU - "The History of Call Signs"; Friday, February 18th at 7:30 PM - Matt Heere N3NWV - POTA - Parks on the Air; Saturday, February 19th - Barry Feierman K3EUI NANO VNA Part II

- Ed WX2R thanked all contributors to The Resonator. The latest issue will be the largest one to date.

Continued on next page.

## **January 2022 FLARC Business Meeting, continued**

### **Website Committee - Jim W2JC -**

- The DX calendar is automated, the VE testing page automatically updates as well. The SIG Groups are quite active including the satellite group and the POTA group.
- Pop Up Tuesdays are good with Fred W2ABE doing “show and tell” of many antique items in his collection - lots of items on display.
- Ham Radio University - January 8th at 10:00 AM. Free Registration

### **RACES / ARES - David KD2MOB -**

- Thank you to Karl W2KBF for the Generator article in The Resonator.
- Turnout has been low for the nets, so we plan on including more articles in The Resonator such as the “Go Bag” article presented last month. We’d like to have more training nets every Wednesday at 8:00 PM
- In March, Fair Lawn RACES will be the Net Control Station for the Bergen County RACES Net.

**Winter Field Day** - Submit ideas / concerns to Noel W2MSA. Winter Field Day is on January 29th and 30th. Individual member scores can be combined for a total club score.

### **Social Media Committee - Thom W2NZ -**

- FLARC had 739 subscribers on its YouTube Channel including 35 new subscribers over the last 28 days.
- Views and watch times have been about the same as prior months.
- A new video was just released - Thoughts about Growing Amateur Radio, with Rich Moseson W2VU, editor of CQ Magazine.

### **VE Sessions - Gene WO2W -**

- The next session is on January 15th at 9:15 AM, please register beforehand, there’s a \$15 sitting fee, masks and safety protocols are in effect.

Nomar NP4H asked Gene WO2W about the next FLARC Hamfest. Gene responded as follows - the hamfest will be on June 4, 2022; it’s been approved by the ARRL; Gene talked to Jimmy Graff about obtaining a permit - further discussions will take place soon. The site will be at Memorial Park, Southeast parking lot by the pool. It will be easier for people to park their cars there, instead of the recycling center which was used this past year.

### **Special Interest Groups**

- Satellites - The space communications with the International Space Station (ISS). A couple weeks ago slow scan TV was available. Up to 12 pictures could have been obtained. Participants sent for QSL Cards and obtained certificates. Noel W2MSA, Steve WI2W, Steve KA2YRA, Nomar NP4H, Jim W2JC and others participated.

Continued on next page.

## **January 2022 FLARC Business Meeting, continued**

- Digital Radio - Bob KD2BKD congratulated those who participated in the satellite communications as he wasn't able to this year. Bob mentioned the DMR Nets which are taking place - Tuesdays at 7:00 PM is the Digital Voice Net on talk group 310015 and Thursdays at 7:30 PM - the BCFMA Net on RF only on the Franklin Lakes repeater.

- Comment by Jim W2JC - SLACK has been an excellent communication tool for the club. Real time chats occur using SLACK. Send a request to the webmaster (webmaster@FairLawnARC.net) to get signed up.

- POTA - Parks on the Air - Noel W2MSA - Very busy and active. There have been mapping, technical issues / discussions and SLACK is very effective in the field. Noel thanked Bob KD2BKD for alerting everyone about the ISS SSTV picture transmissions. Winter Field Day is on January 29th and 30th. Fred W2AAB wrote some guidelines on how to participate. It's all about going outside and working outdoors.

### **Health and Welfare**

Nomar NP4H mentioned that there are a few members with ailments.

Judith KC2TM mentioned some good news about Skip KD2BRV. He's heading to Florida for 2 weeks.

Comments by Fred W2AAB - Fred indicated that the ARRL has sent out a survey to members and groups that submitted logs to previous June Field Days, looking for feedback and suggestions regarding Field Day rules and operation. The link to the survey is at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022-ARRL-Field-Day-Survey>. Fred also discussed winter field day and how scores are reported on the 3830 website. A question was asked about having FLARC listed in a dropdown box as one of the clubs on the 3830 website. Noel W2MSA stated - per the website, to contact Bruce Horn WA7BNM.

Noel W2MSA stated the Winter Field Day rules are on the following website - [www.winterfieldday.com](http://www.winterfieldday.com) It takes place January 29th and 30th.

#### **Note:**

7 participants attended this hybrid meeting in-person at the Recreation Center and 33 attended via Zoom video teleconference.

8:26 PM - Motion to Adjourn -

Motion to close the meeting by Brian KD2KLN, seconded by Noel W2MSA.

Respectfully submitted on January 8, 2022

by David KD2MOB. 73.